Attorney Docket No.: 5776.204-US PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hansen et al.

Application No.: To be assigned Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: June 1, 2001 Examiner: To be assigned

For: Use of N-Substituted Azaheterocyclic Compounds for the Manufacture of a Pharmaceutical Composition for the Treatment of Indications Related to Angiogenesis

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, kindly amend the application as set forth below:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, after the title, insert

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

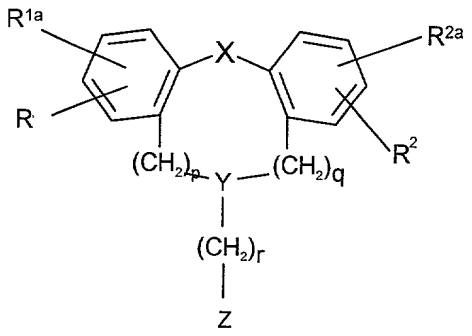
This application is a continuation of PCT/DK99/00671 filed on December 1, 1999 and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 of Danish application PA 1998 01586 filed on December 2, 1998 and U.S. provisional application no. 60/111,445 filed on December 8, 1998, the contents of which are fully incorporated herein by reference.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 35-38 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1-34 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.12(a)(2)(ii) as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for treating a condition related to angiogenesis, said method comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatement an effective amount of a compound having the general formula Ia



(Ia)

wherein R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, hydroxy, NR^7R^8, cyano, methylthio or $-SO_2NR^7R^8$ wherein $R^7$and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; or

Y is -CH_2N(-)CH_2-, -CH_2N(-)CH_2-, -(C=O)N(-)CH_2-, -CH_2N(-)(C=O)-, -CH_2CH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2C(-)=CH-, -CH=C(-)CH_2-, -OCH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)O-, -SCH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)S-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; or

Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

Y is >CH-O- or >CH-$S(O)_y$ wherein y is 0, 1 or 2, or -N(R^8)- wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

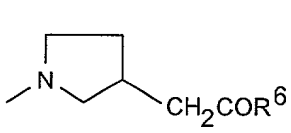
X is completion of an optional bond, ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-

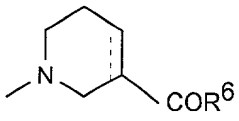
(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -CH_2OCH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -$N(R^8)(CH_2)$-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -$CH(R^9)CH_2$-, -$CH_2CH(R^9)$-, -(C=O)-, -$N(R^8)$- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 0,1, 2 , 3 or 4; and

Z is selected from

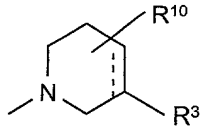


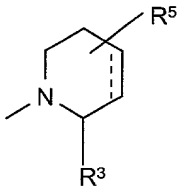


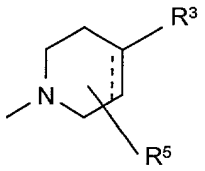
wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

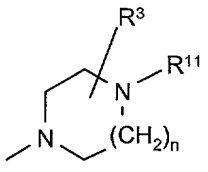
.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

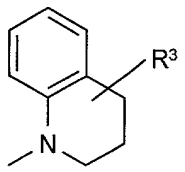
Z is selected from

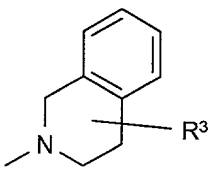


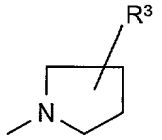


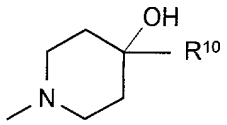


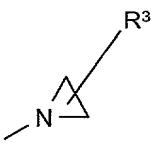


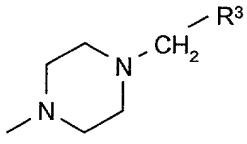


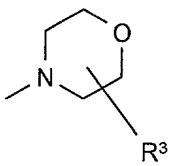












wherein n is 1 or 2;

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

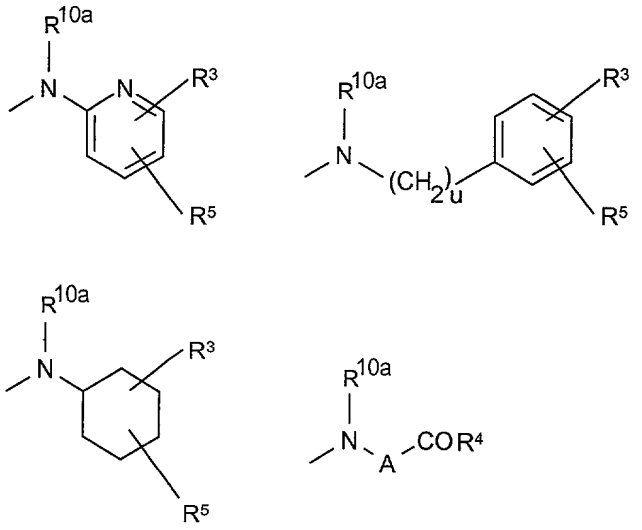
R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

Z is selected from



wherein u is 0 or 1;

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

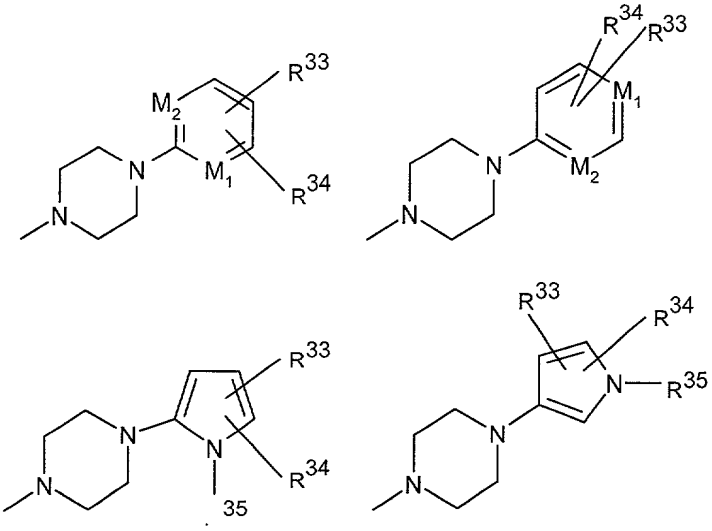
R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10a} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

A is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; or

Z is selected from



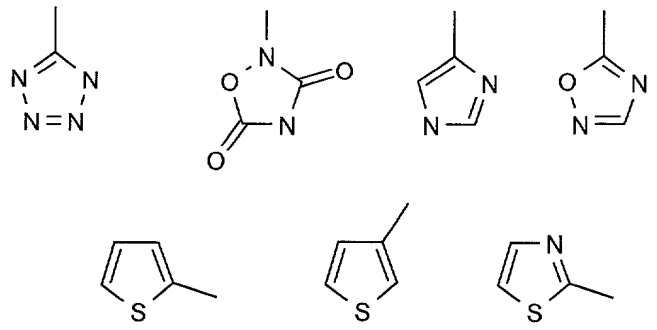
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{35} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{33} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

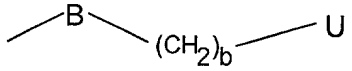
R^{34} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_wCOR^{31}$, $-(CH_2)_wOH$ or $-(CH_2)_wSO_2R^{31}$ wherein R^{31} is hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or NHR^{32}, wherein R^{32} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and w is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{34} is selected from



; or

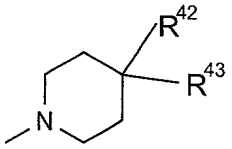
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH$_2$)-, -(CR^{49}R^{40})-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C$_{1-6}$-unbranched alkyl, C$_{3-6}$-branched alkyl or C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

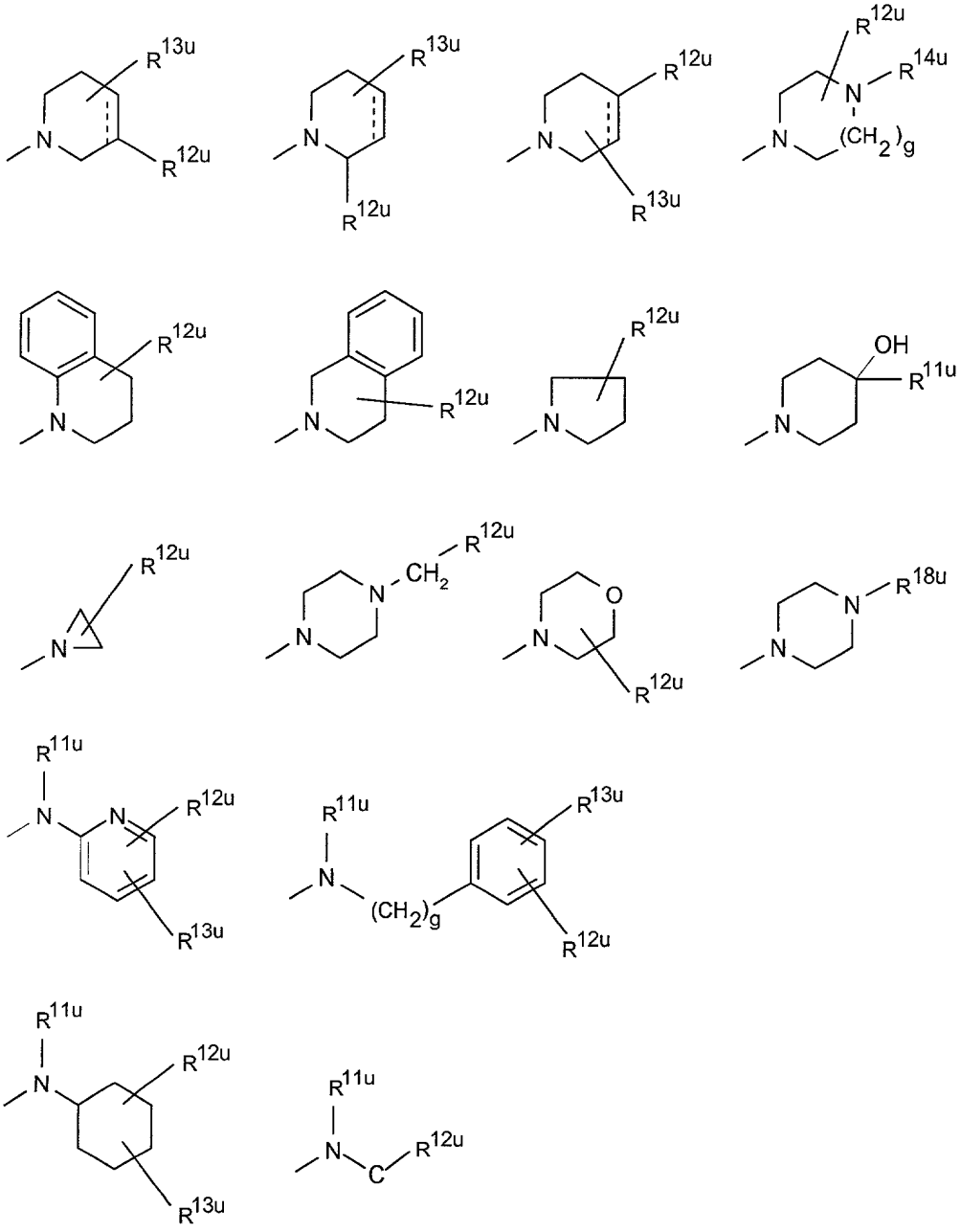
U is



wherein R^{42} is hydrogen, -(CH$_2$)$_c$OH or -(CH$_2$)$_d$COR^{47} wherein c is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and d is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{47} is -OH, -NHR^{44} or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy wherein R^{44} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

R^{43} is cyano, -NR^{45}R^{47}, -NR^{45}-V or -(CHR^{48})$_e$-V wherein R^{45} and R^{47} independently are hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl and wherein e is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and wherein R^{48} is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl, C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy, -NR^{45}R^{47} or -COOH, and wherein V is C$_{3-8}$-cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, which rings may optionally be substituted with one or more halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methylthio, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy; or

U is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

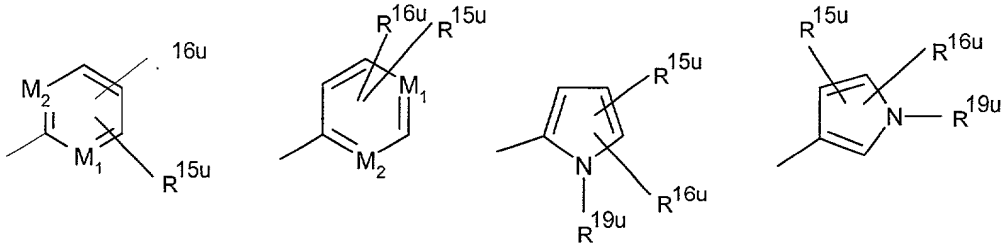
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



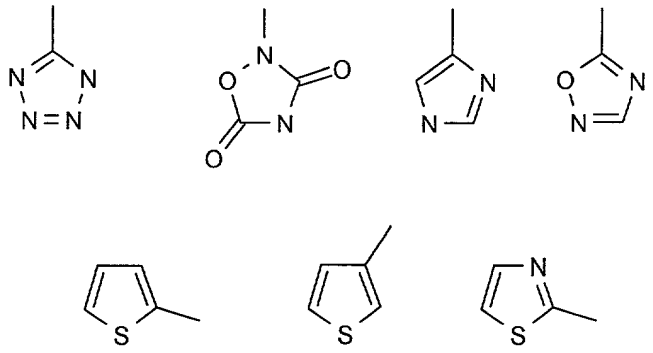
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

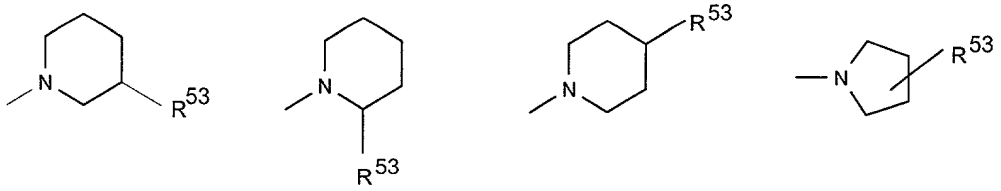
R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



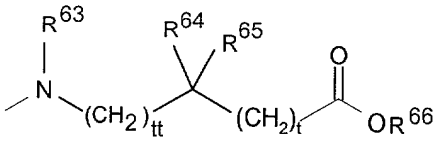
; or

Z is selected from



wherein R^{53} is $-(CH_2)_{pp}COOH$ wherein pp is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; or

Z is



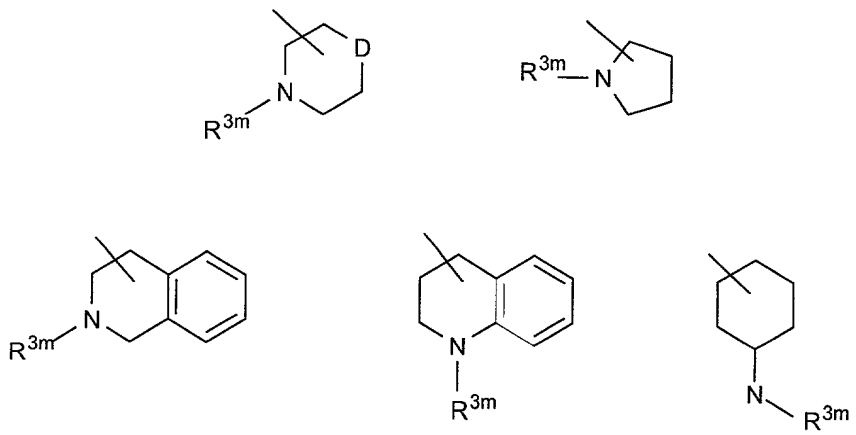
wherein tt and t independently are 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{63} is H, C_{1-6}-alkyl or optionally substituted benzyl;

R^{64} and R^{65} independently are H, C_{1-8}-alkyl, C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl, benzyl, or R^{64} and R^{65} together with the C-atom they are attached to form a 3 - 8 membered carbocyclic ring; and

R^{66} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

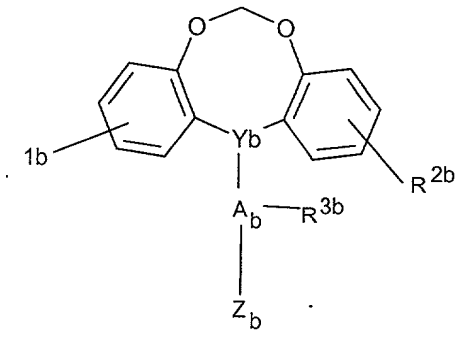
Z is selected from



wherein D is $-CH_2-$, -O-, -S- or $-N(R^7)-$ wherein R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{3m} is $-(CH_2)_{mm}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{mp}COR^4$ wherein mm and mp are 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^4 is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; or

having the general formula Ib



(Ib)

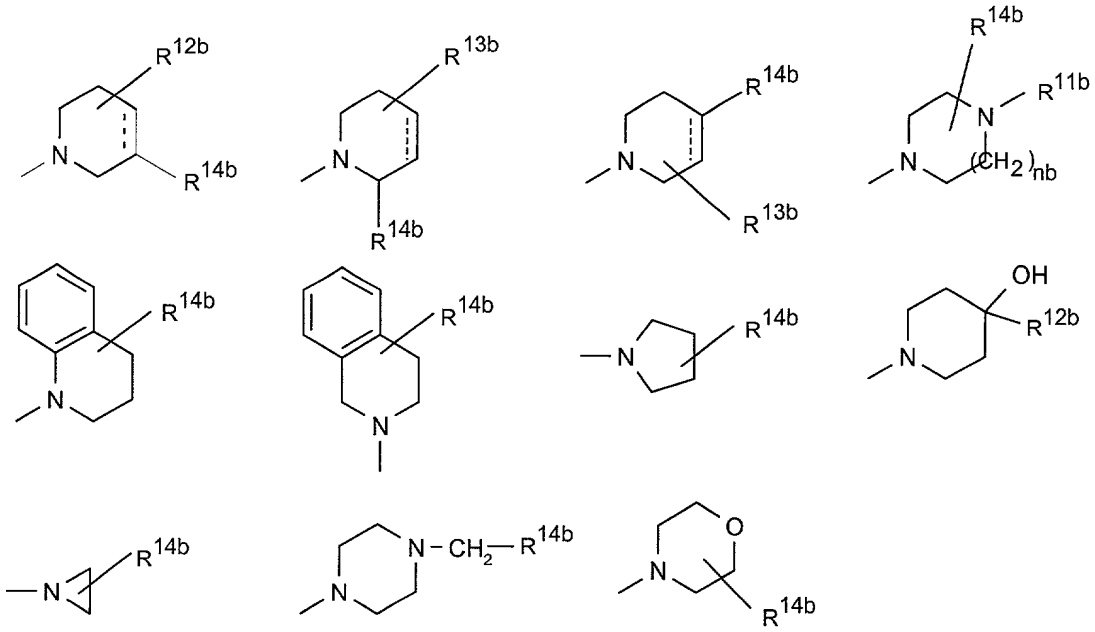
wherein R^{1b} and R^{2b} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

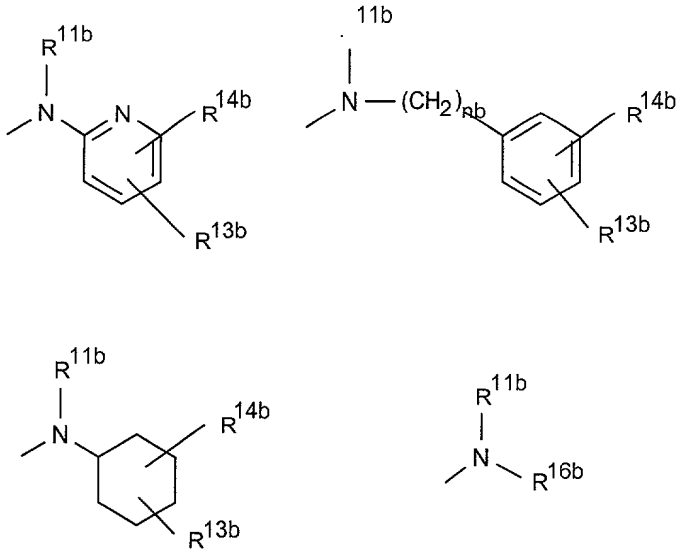
R^{3b} is hydrogen or C_{1-3}-alkyl; and

A_b is C_{1-3}-alkylene; and

Y_b is >C̲H-CH_2-, >C̲=CH-, >C̲H-O-, >C̲=N-, >N̲-CH_2- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

Z_b is selected from





wherein nb is 1 or 2; and

R^{11b} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{12b} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoro-methyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

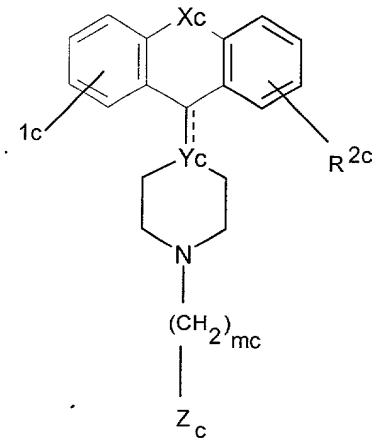
R^{13b} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14b} is $-(CH_2)_{mb}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{tb}COR^{15b}$ wherein mb is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and tb is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{15b} is -OH, NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{16b} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or $-B_b-COR^{15b}$, wherein B_b is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene and R^{15b} is the same as above; and

... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

having the general formula Ic



(Ic)

wherein R^{1c} and R^{2c} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

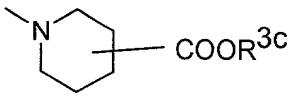
X_c is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C($R^{6c}R^{7c}$)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^{8c})-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^{8c})-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^{8c})$-, -N(R^{8c})(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^{10c})CH_2-, -$CH_2CH(R^{10c})$-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^{9c})- or -(S=O)- wherein R^{6c}, R^{7c}, R^{8c} and R^{9c} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein R^{10c} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl;

Y_c is C or N;

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond, and .... is a single bond when Y_c is N;

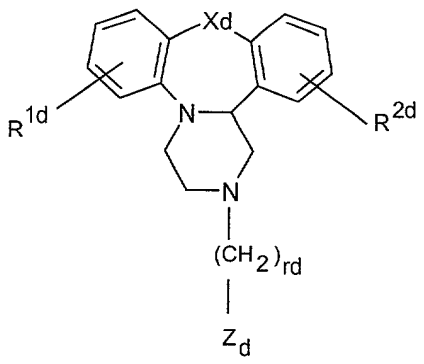
mc is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

Z_c is -$COOR^{3c}$ or



wherein R^{3c} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

having the general formula Id



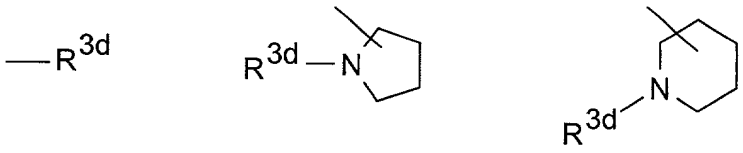
(Id)

wherein R^{1d} and R^{2d} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

X_d is -O-, -S- or -S(=O)-; and

rd is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 ; and

Z_d is selected from



wherein R^{3d} is $-(CH_2)_{md}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{pd}COR^{4d}$ wherein md and pd independently are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^{4d} is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the condition is related to cancer.

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the condition is related to ocular neovascularization.

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

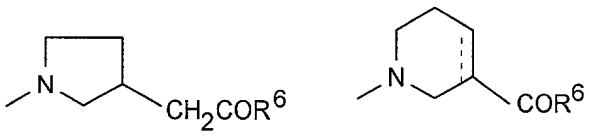
Y is $>\underline{N}\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$, $>\underline{C}H\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$ or $>\underline{C}\text{=}CH\text{-}$ wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -O-CH_2-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0, and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 4 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(Fluoren-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5H-Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-butyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10H-Phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10H-Phenoxazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidinacetic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Trifluoromethyl-10H-phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Oxo-10H-phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-10-Oxa-5-aza-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,7-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,g]azocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10-Methyl-11-oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9(H)-Oxo-10H-acridin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenz[b,e]oxepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(Z)-(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(E)-(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

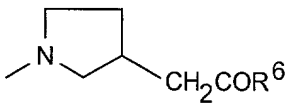
Y is -$CH_2N(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2N(-)CH_2$-, -$(C=O)N(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2N(-)(C=O)$-, -$CH_2CH(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2CH(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2C(-)=CH$-, -$CH=C(-)CH_2$-, -$OCH(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2CH(-)O$-, -$SCH(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2CH(-)S$-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

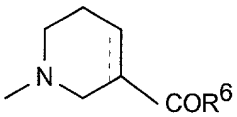
X is -O-, -S-, -$C(R^7R^8)$-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -$N(R^8)$-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-$N(R^8)$-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$N(R^8)$-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from





wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 6 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(R)-1-(3-(6,11-Dioxo-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5,11-Dihydro-10H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenzo[b,f][1,4]thiazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenzo[b,e][1,4]dithiepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,e][1,4]oxathiepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-10H-dibenz[b,g][1,5]oxazocin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-10H-dibenzo[b,g][1,5]thiazocin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-6H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,e]cycloocten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Oxo-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(7,12-Dihydro-6H-dibenzo[a,d]cycloocten-6-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,11-dihydro-dibenz[b,f]azepin-10-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Oxo-5,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11-Oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6-Oxo-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5,6,11,12-Tetrahydro-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11-Oxo-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Methyl-dibenz[b,f]azepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,7-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,g][1,5]oxazocin-6-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-dibenz[a,e]cycloocten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

8. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, NR^7R^8, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

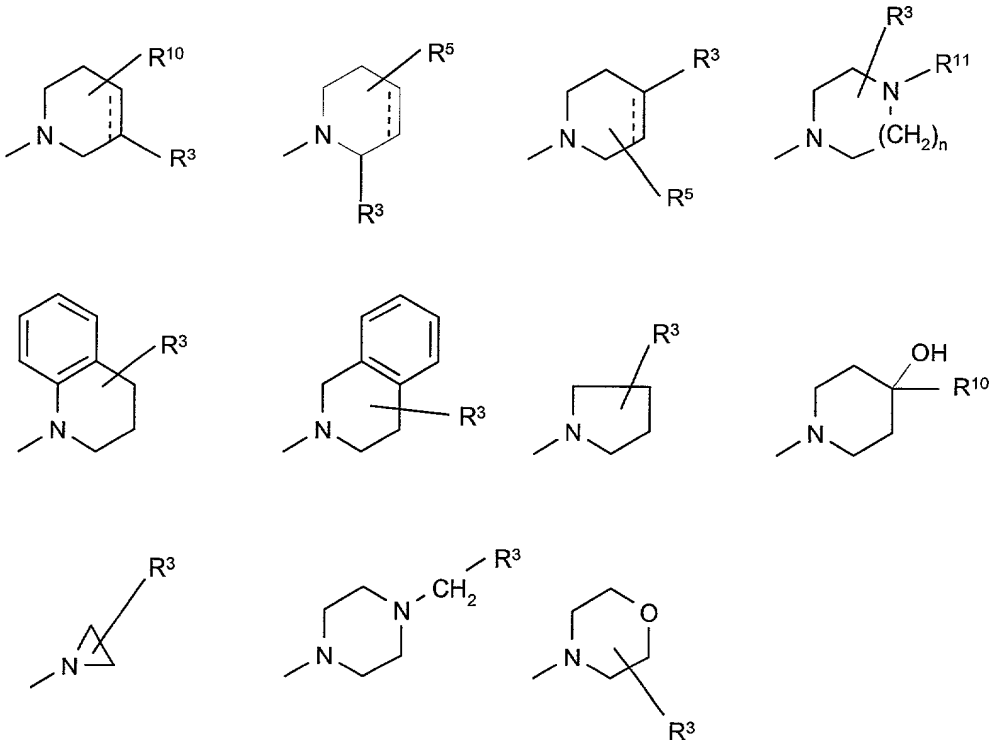
Y is $>\underline{N}\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$, $>\underline{C}H\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$ or $>\underline{C}\text{=}CH\text{-}$ wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is -O-, -S-, $-C(R^7R^8)-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH\text{=}CH\text{-}CH_2-$, $-CH_2\text{-}CH\text{=}CH-$, $-CH_2\text{-}(C\text{=}O)-$, $-(C\text{=}O)\text{-}CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH\text{=}CH-$, $-N(R^8)\text{-}(C\text{=}O)-$, $-(C\text{=}O)\text{-}N(R^8)-$, $-O\text{-}CH_2-$, $-CH_2\text{-}O-$, $-S\text{-}CH_2-$, $-CH_2\text{-}S-$, $-N(R^8)-$, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein n is 1 or 2; and

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

9. (Amended) The method according to claim 8 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidine-carboxamide;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinyl)methanol;

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinol;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid;

(2S,4R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-hydroxy-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-morpholinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-aziridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-4-isoquinolinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-methyl-[1,4]-diazepane-6-carboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-3-isoquinolinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydroxamide;

(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxamide;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10H-Phenoxazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-methyl-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-quinuclidiniumcarboxylate;

1-(3-(2,8-Dibromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3,7-Dichloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3,7-Dimethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Dimethylamino-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(Phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

10. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein in, formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

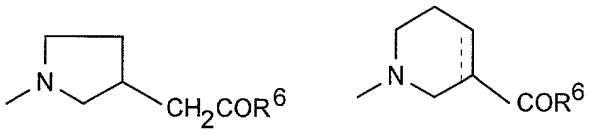
Y is $>\underline{N}\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$, $>\underline{C}H\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$ or $>\underline{C}\text{=}CH\text{-}$ wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, $\text{-}CH_2\text{-}(C\text{=}O)\text{-}$, $\text{-}(C\text{=}O)\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$, $\text{-}S\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$, $\text{-}CH_2\text{-}S\text{-}$, $\text{-}(CH_2)N(R^8)\text{-}$, $\text{-}N(R^8)(CH_2)\text{-}$, $\text{-}N(CH_3)SO_2\text{-}$, $\text{-}SO_2N(CH_3)\text{-}$, $\text{-}CH(R^9)CH_2\text{-}$ or $\text{-}CH_2CH(R^9)\text{-}$ wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl and R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 10 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(9H-Tribenz[b,d,f]azepin-9-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(Tribenzo[a,c,e]cyclohepten-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,6-dihydrodibenz[b,e]azepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Methyl-6H-dibenzo[c,f][1,2]thiazepin-5,5-dioxide-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Phenyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-11H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]thiazepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10-Oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6-Methyl-6,11-dihydro-dibenzo[c,f][1,2,5]thiadiazepin-5,5-dioxide-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,6-dihydrodibenz[b,e]azepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9H-Tribenzo[a,c,e]cyclohepten-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9H-Tribenzo[b,d,f]azepine-9-yl)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

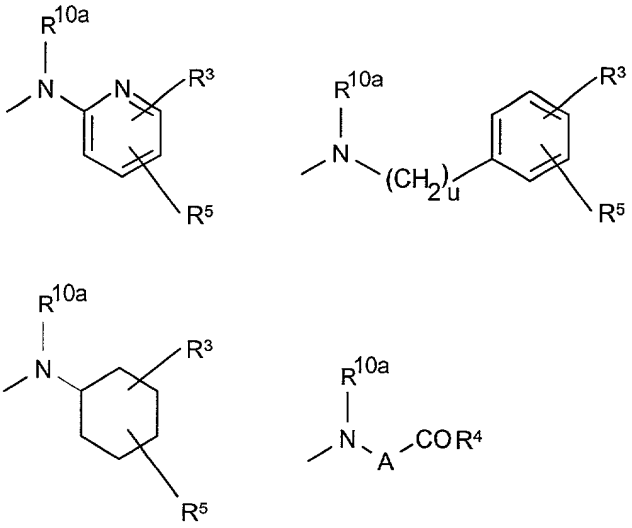
12. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,
R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and
Y is >$\underline{N}$-CH_2- , >$\underline{C}$H-CH_2- or >$\underline{C}$=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -N(R^8)-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein u is 0 or 1;

R^3 is -$(CH_2)_m$OH or -$(CH_2)_s$COR^4 wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, -NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10a} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

A is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 12 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(N-Methyl-N-(3-(10,11-dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)propionic acid;

4-(N-Methyl-N-(3-(10,11-dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)butyric acid;

3-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)propionic acid;

2-(N(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methyl-amino)succinic acid;

2-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-(N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)nicotinic acid;

2-((N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)methyl)benzoic acid;

2-((N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)-1-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propylamino)pyridin-3-ol;

3-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-(N-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

5-Bromo-2-(N-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy,C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

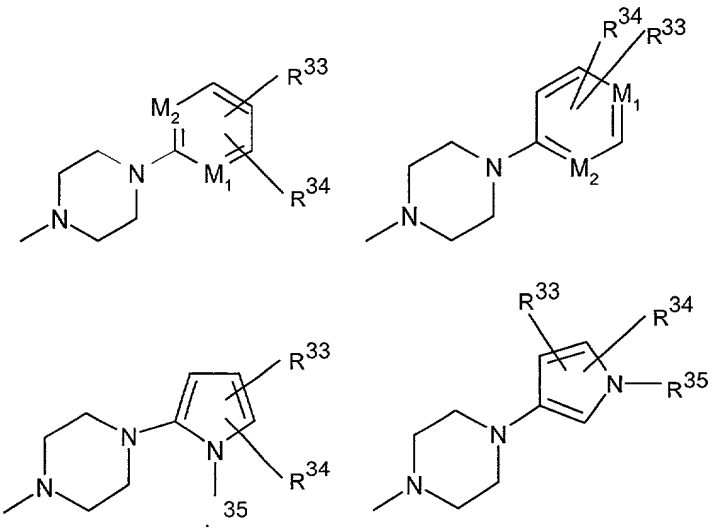
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- , >C=CH- or >CH-O- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



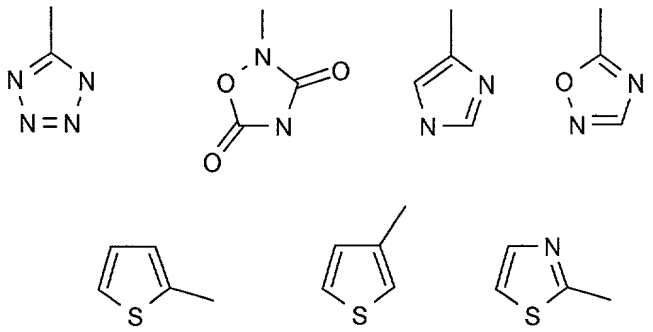
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{35} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{33} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{34} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, -$(CH_2)_wCOR^{31}$, -$(CH_2)_wOH$ or -$(CH_2)_wSO_2R^{31}$ wherein R^{31} is hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or NHR^{32}, wherein R^{32} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and w is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{34} is selected from



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

15. (Amended) The method according to claim 14 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

2-(4-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(2-Chloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(2-pyridyl)piperazine;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridine-carboxylic acid;

2-(4-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

6-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-5-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-piperazine;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-benzonitrile;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-benzoic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyl)piperazine;

2-(4-(2-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)ethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-yloxy)ethyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

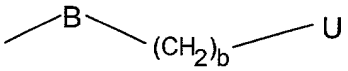
6-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

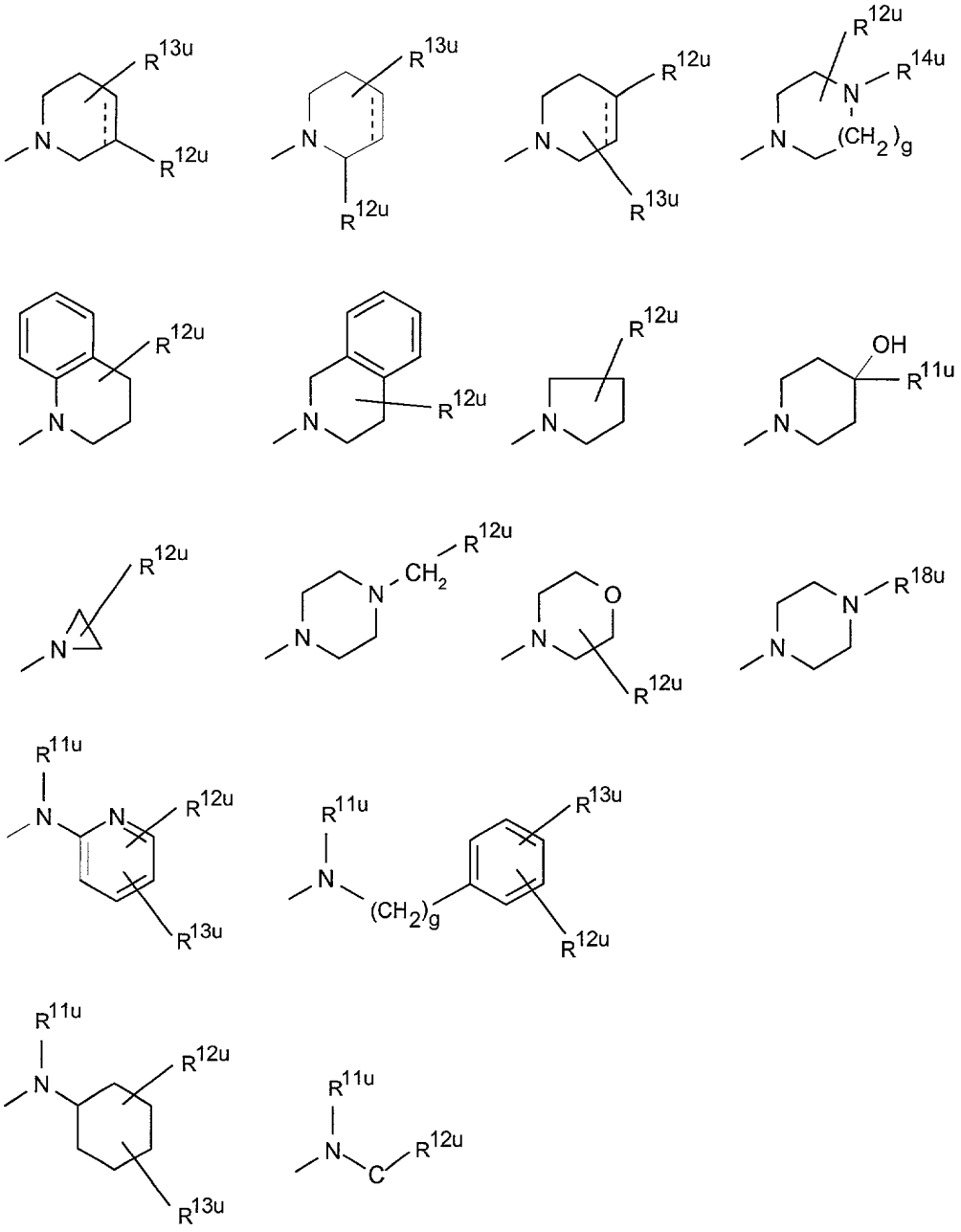
6-(4-(3-(Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-pyridine-2-carboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

16. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,
R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and
Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -CH_2OCH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -$CH(R^9)CH_2$-, -$CH_2CH(R^9)$-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl;
and p and q are 0; and
r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and
B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH_2)-, -($CR^{49}R^{40}$)-, -$CH(OR^{41})$-, -$CH(NHR^{41})$-, phenylene, C_{3-7}-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C_{1-6}-unbranched alkyl, C_{3-6}-branched alkyl or C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and
U is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

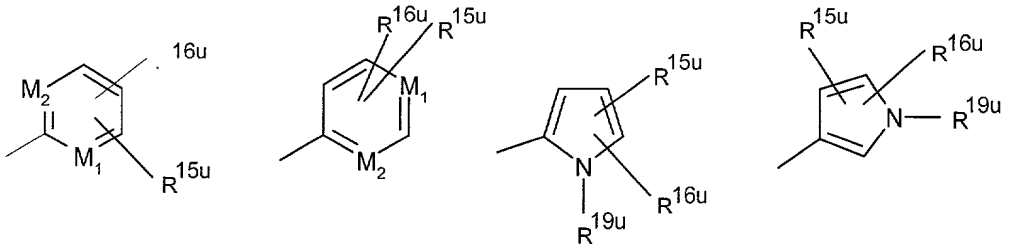
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



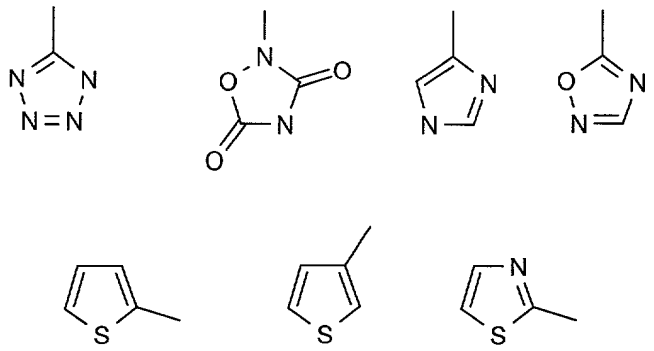
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

17. (Amended) The method according to claim 16 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(2R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2Z)-butenyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propionyl)-(3R)-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2E)-butenyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-methyl-3-oxopropyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-butynyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxy-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-pentyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Trifluoromethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-nicotinic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-cyclopropylmethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-cyclopentylmethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-3-oxopropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-butyn-1-yl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid

(R)-1-((2R)-Methyl-3-(3-methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)1-methylpropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)methyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidinylacetic acid;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methylpropyl)-4-piperazinyl)-nicotinic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-pentyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)nicotinic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-methyl-3-oxo-propyl)-3-

piperidinearboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propionyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propionyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylcarbonyl)-1-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-3-oxo-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methylpropyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxy-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxypropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-propoxypropyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(N-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-N-methylamino)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

18. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or methylthio, $-NR^7R^8$ or $-SO_2NR^7R^8$ wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

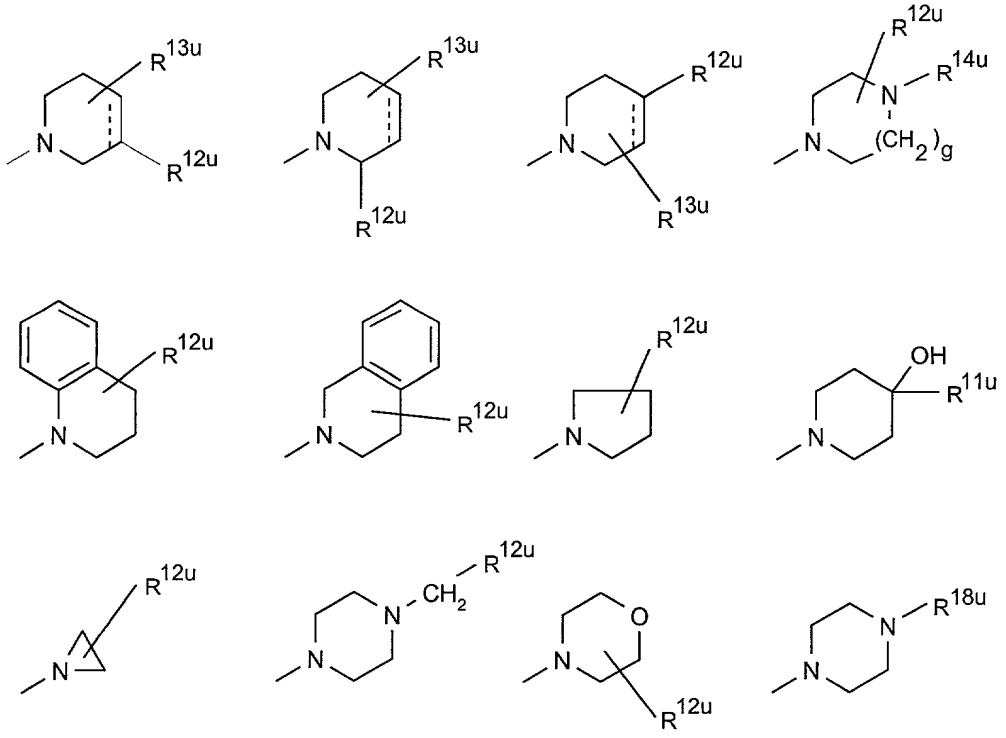
Y is >CH-O- or >CH-$S(O)_y$ wherein y is 0, 1 or 2, or $-N(R^8)-$ wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

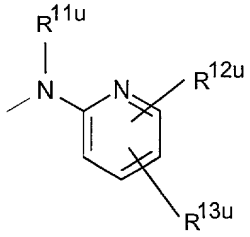
X is completion of an optional bond, ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^7R^8)-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-$, $-N(R^8)-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^8)-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-CH_2OCH_2-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^8)-$, $-N(R^8)(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^9)CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^9)-$, $-(C=O)-$, $-N(R^8)-$ or $-(S=O)-$ wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

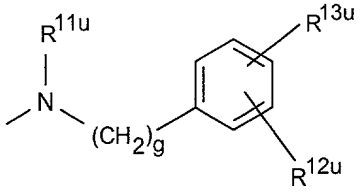
p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

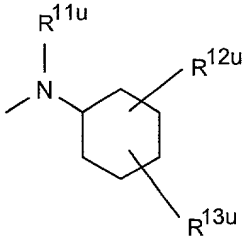
r is 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

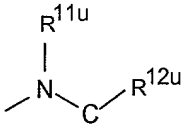
Z is selected from











wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

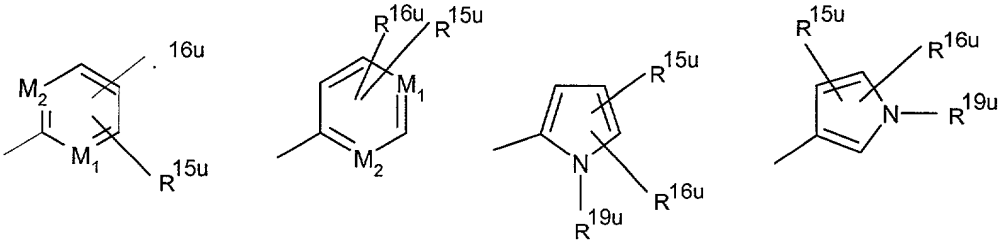
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



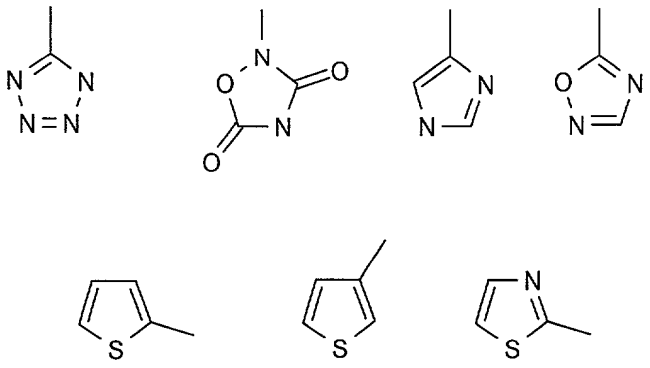
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

19. (Amended) The method according to claim 18 wherein, the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

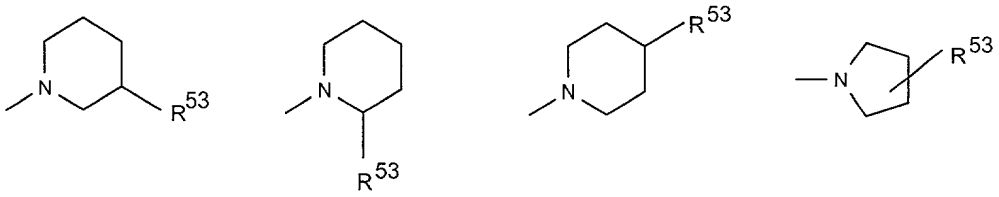
(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

20. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,
R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and
Y is >$\underline{N}$-CH_2- , >$\underline{C}$H-CH_2- or >$\underline{C}$=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N(CH_3)SO_2-, -SO_2N(CH_3)-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and
p and q are 0; and
r is 1, 2 or 3; and
Z is selected from



wherein R^{53} is $-(CH_2)_{pp}COOH$ wherein pp is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

21. (Amended) The method according to claim 20 wherein, the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)ethyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Xanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)-butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-2-yl)-propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(1-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Trifluoromethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Hydroxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Fluoro-6,11-dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)-propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-2-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)-propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)-butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10H-Anthracen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10H-Anthracen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

5-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

22. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia, R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

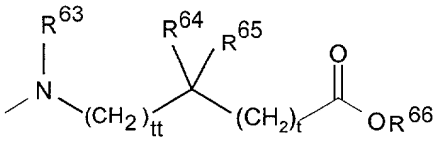
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- , >C=CH- or >CH-O- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is



wherein tt and t independently are 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{63} is H, C_{1-6}-alkyl or optionally substituted benzyl;

R^{64} and R^{65} independently are H, C_{1-8}-alkyl, C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl, benzyl, or R^{64} and R^{65} together with the C-atom they are attached to form a 3 - 8 membered carbocyclic ring; and

R^{66} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

23. (Amended) The method according to claim 22 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

24. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia, R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl

or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

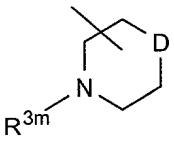
Y is >$\underline{N}$-CH_2- , >$\underline{C}$H-CH_2- or >$\underline{C}$=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

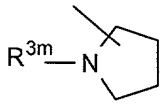
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N(CH_3)SO_2-, -SO_2N(CH_3)-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

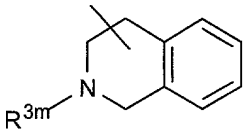
p and q are 0; and

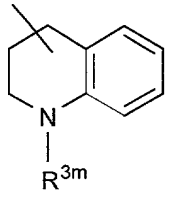
r is 0, 1 or 2; and

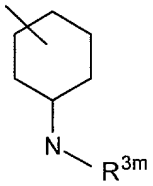
Z is selected from











wherein D is -CH_2-, -O-, -S- or -N(R^7)- wherein R^7 is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{3m} is -(CH_2)$_{mm}$OH or -(CH_2)$_{mp}$COR^4 wherein mm and mp are 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^4 is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

25. (Amended) The method according to claim 24 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-pyrrolidin-1-yl)-propionic acid;

(2-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-morpholin-4-yl)-acetic acid;

(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[(b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-piperidyl)acetic acid,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

26. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, methylthio, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

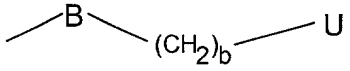
Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -CH_2OCH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N$(CH_3)SO_2$-, -SO_2N(CH_3)-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

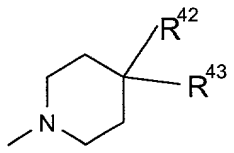
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH_2)-, -(C$R^{49}R^{40}$)-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C_{3-7}-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C_{1-6}-unbranched alkyl, C_{3-6}-branched alkyl or C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

U is



wherein R^{42} is hydrogen, -$(CH_2)_c$OH or -$(CH_2)_d$COR^{47} wherein c is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and d is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{47} is -OH, -NHR^{44} or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{44} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{43} is cyano, -N$R^{45}R^{46}$, -NR^{45}-V or -$(CHR^{48})_e$-V wherein R^{45} and R^{46} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl and wherein e is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and wherein R^{48} is hydrogen,

halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, $-NR^{45}R^{46}$ or -COOH, and wherein V is C_{3-8}-cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, which rings may optionally be substituted with one or more halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methylthio, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

27. (Amended) The method according to claim 26 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-phenyl-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(4-Methylphenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-anilino-4-piperidinecarboxamide;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidyl)-2-phenylacetonitrile;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinyl)-2-phenylacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-cyano-4 piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

28. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ib,

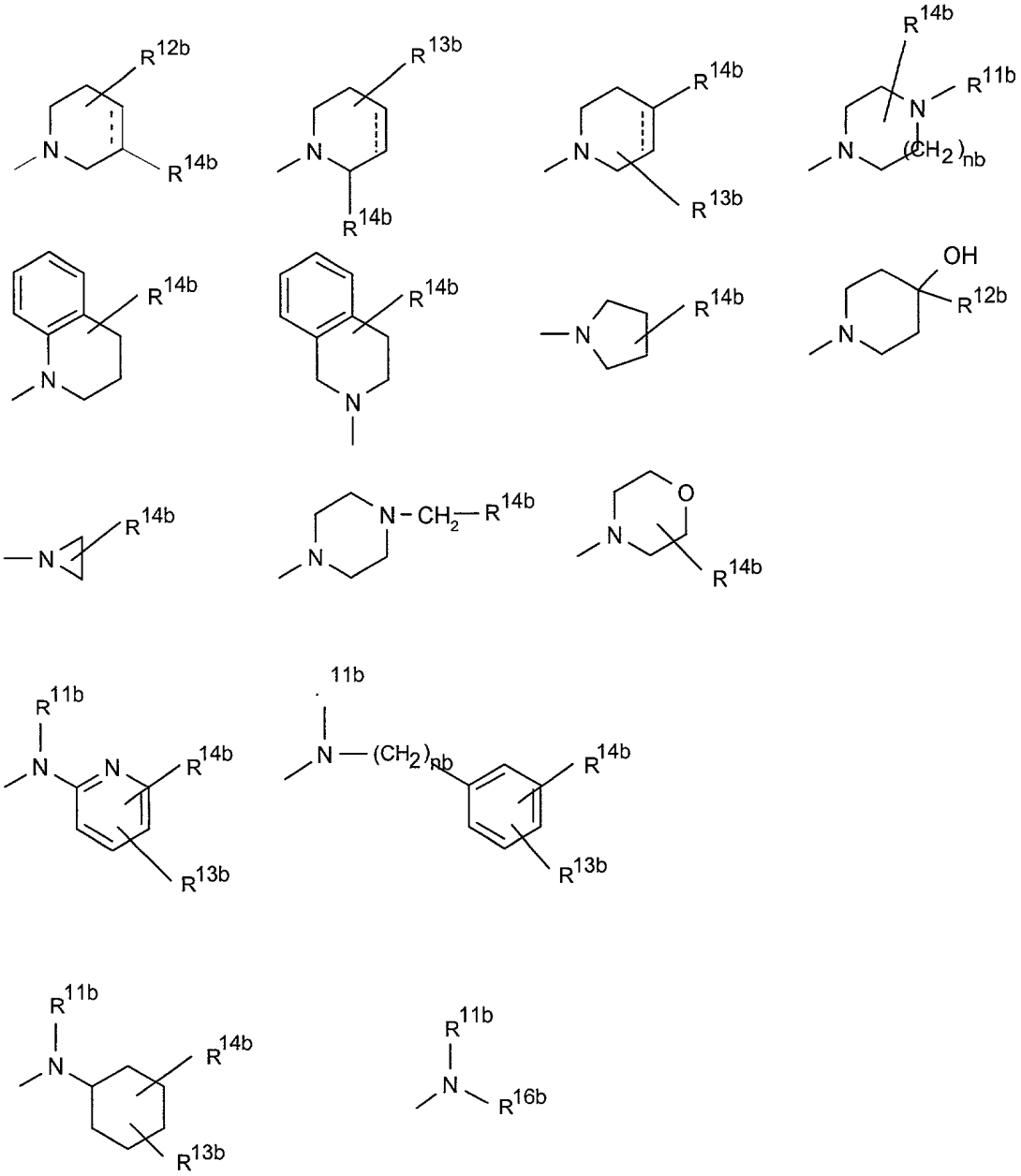
R^{1b} and R^{2b} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{3b} is hydrogen or C_{1-3}-alkyl; and

A_b is C_{1-3}-alkylene; and

Y_b is >$\underline{C}$H-CH_2-, >$\underline{C}$=CH-, >$\underline{C}$H-O-, >$\underline{C}$=N-, >$\underline{N}$-CH_2- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

Z_b is selected from



wherein nb is 1 or 2; and

R^{11b} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{12b} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoro-methyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{13b} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14b} is $-(CH_2)_{mb}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{tb}COR^{15b}$ wherein mb is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and tb is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{15b} is -OH, NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{16b} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or $-B_b-COR^{15b}$, wherein B_b is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene and R^{15b} is the same as above; and

... is optionally a single bond or a double bond;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

29. (Amended) The method according to claim 28 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g[1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Chloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(2-dimethylamino)ethoxy-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propyl-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(3-dimethylamino-1-methyl)ethoxy-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(2-dimethylaminopropylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino-1-methylpropylidene)-12H-dibenzo-[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Fluoro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Methyl-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Chloro-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

30. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ic,

R^{1c} and R^{2c} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

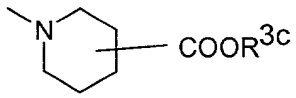
X_c is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^{6c}R^{7c})-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, $-N(R^{8c})-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^{8c})-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^{8c})-$, $-N(R^{8c})(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^{10c})CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^{10c})-$, $-(C=O)-$, $-N(R^{9c})-$ or -(S=O)- wherein R^{6c}, R^{7c}, R^{8c} and R^{9c} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein R^{10c} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

Y_c is C or N; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond, and .... is a single bond when Y_c is N; and

mc is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

Z_c is $-COOR^{3c}$ or



wherein R^{3c} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

31. (Amended) The method according to claim 30 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

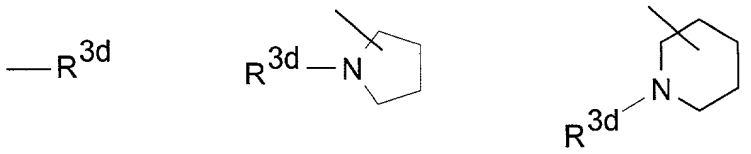
and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

32. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Id, R^{1d} and R^{2d} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

X_d is -O-, -S- or -S(=O)-; and

rd is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 ; and

Z_d is selected from



wherein R^{3d} is $-(CH_2)_{md}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{pd}COR^{4d}$ wherein md and pd independently are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^{4d} is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

33. (Amended) The method according to claim 32 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

4-(1,3,4,14b-Tetrahydro-2H-dibenzo[b,f]pyrazino[1,2-d][1,4]oxazepin-2-yl)-butanoic acid;

4-(1,3,4,14b-Tetrahydro-2H-dibenzo[b,f]pyrazino[1,2-d][1,4]thiazepin-2-yl)-butanoic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

34. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is in a form suitable for oral administration.

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-38 were originally presented. In this amendment, claims 35-38 are cancelled without prejudice and claims 1-34 are amended to conform to U.S. patent practice. Note that the underlined residues are not being amended; the "underscores" are part of the formula and are referred to in the claim. No new matter is added. Accordingly, claims 1-34 are pending and at issue.

It is believed that the claims are in condition for allowance, and a determination to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 1, 2001

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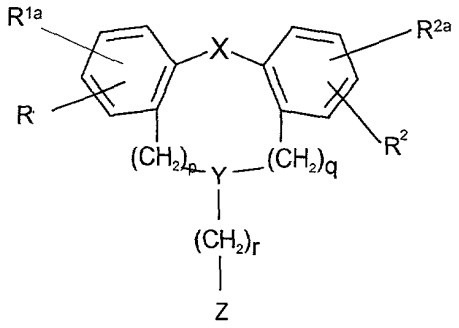
Marked-up version of amended claims

1. (Amended) [The use of] A method for treating a condition related to angiogenesis, said method comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatement an effective amount of a compound having the general formula Ia



(Ia)

wherein R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, hydroxy, NR^7R^8, cyano, methylthio or $-SO_2NR^7R^8$ wherein $R^7$and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl ; and

Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; or

Y is -CH_2N(-)CH_2-, -CH_2N(-)CH_2-, -(C=O)N(-)CH_2-, -CH_2N(-)(C=O)-, -CH_2CH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2C(-)=CH-, -CH=C(-)CH_2-, -OCH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)O-, -SCH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)S-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; or

Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

Y is >CH-O- or >CH-$S(O)_y$ wherein y is 0, 1 or 2, or -N(R^8)- wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

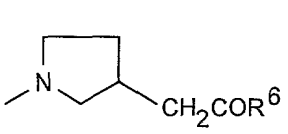
X is completion of an optional bond, ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -CH_2OCH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -$CH_2CH(R^9)$-, -(C=O)-

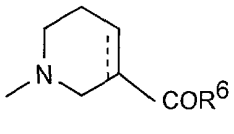
, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 0,1, 2 , 3 or 4; and

Z is selected from

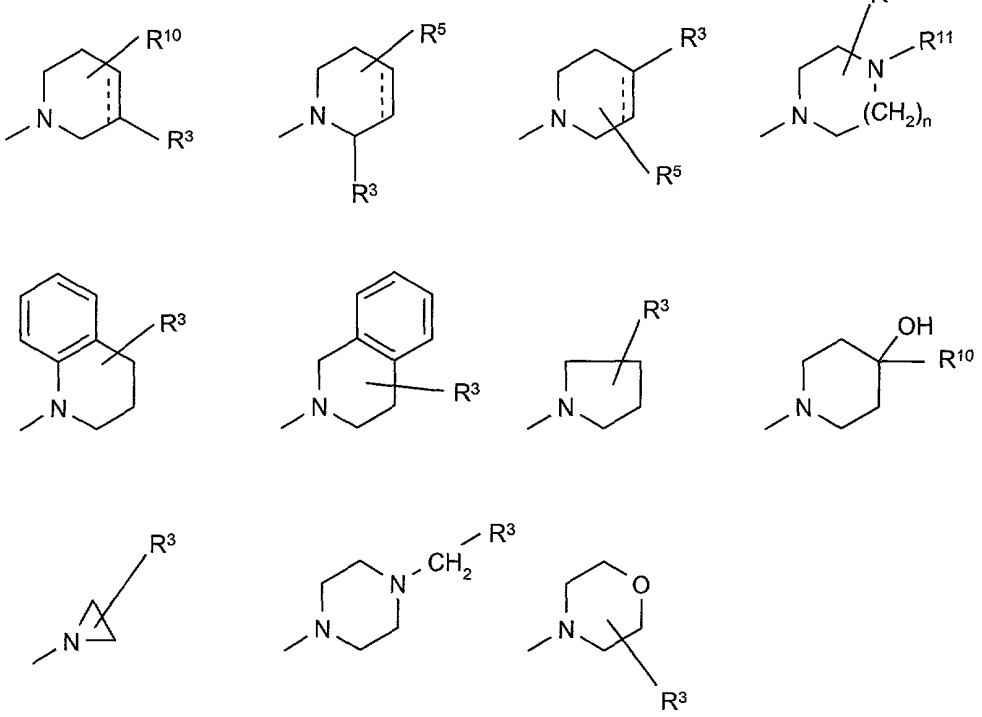




wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

Z is selected from



wherein n is 1 or 2;

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

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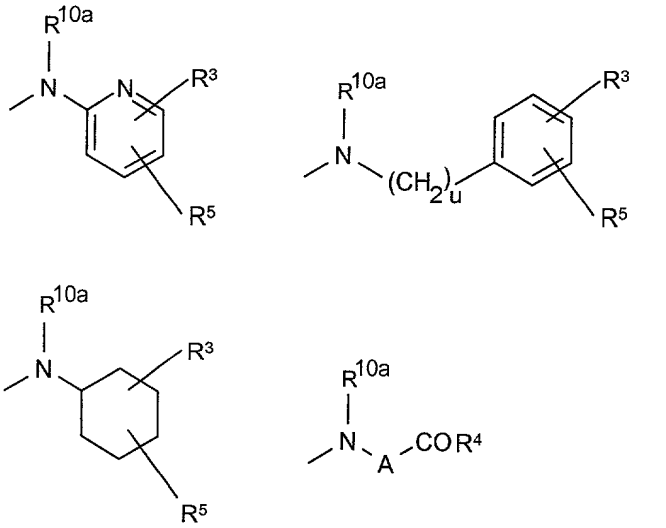


wherein u is 0 or 1;

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

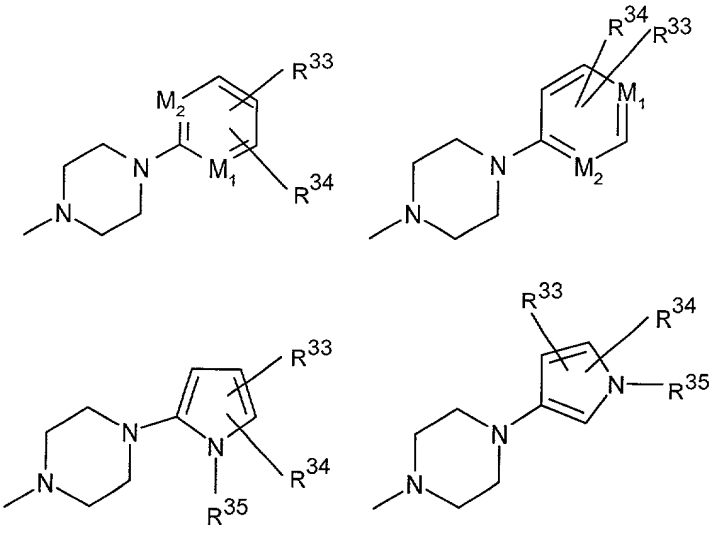
R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10a} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

A is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; or

Z is selected from



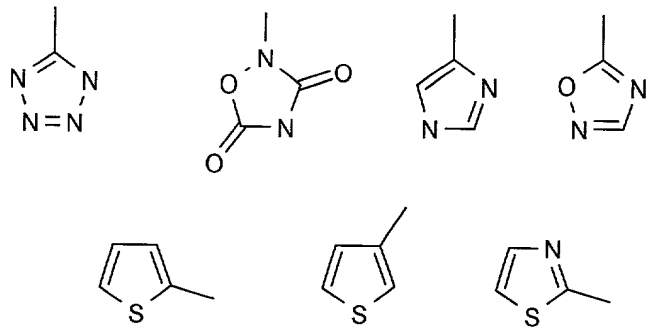
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{35} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{33} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

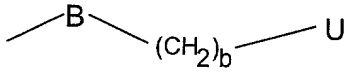
R^{34} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_wCOR^{31}$, $-(CH_2)_wOH$ or $-(CH_2)_wSO_2R^{31}$ wherein R^{31} is hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or NHR^{32}, wherein R^{32} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and w is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{34} is selected from



; or

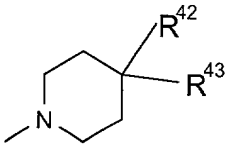
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH$_2$)-, -(CR^{49}R^{40})-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C$_{1-6}$-unbranched alkyl, C$_{3-6}$-branched alkyl or C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

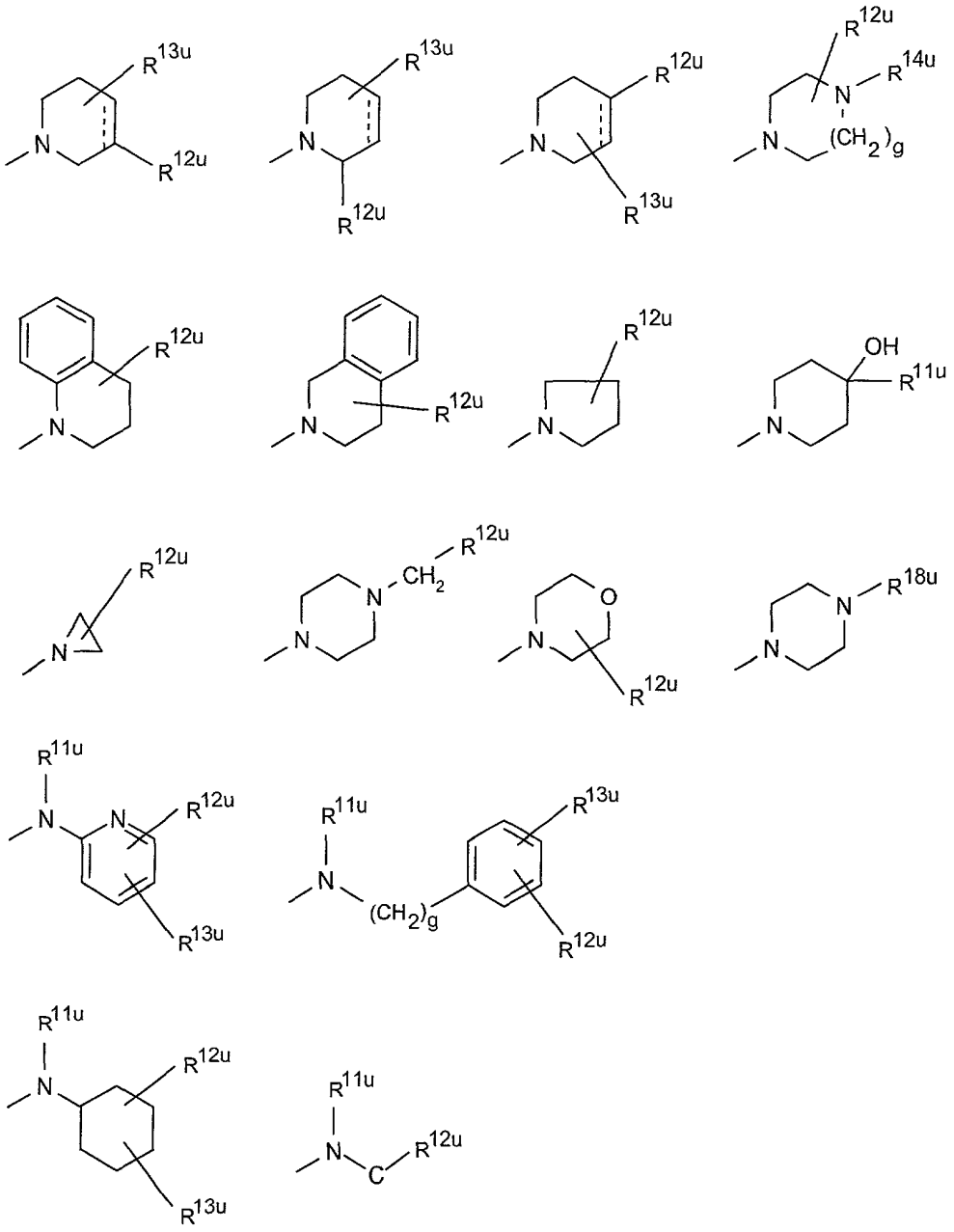
U is



wherein R^{42} is hydrogen, -(CH$_2$)$_c$OH or -(CH$_2$)$_d$COR^{47} wherein c is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and d is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{47} is -OH, -NHR^{44} or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy wherein R^{44} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

R^{43} is cyano, -NR^{45}R^{47}, -NR^{45}-V or -(CHR^{48})$_e$-V wherein R^{45} and R^{47} independently are hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl and wherein e is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and wherein R^{48} is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl, C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy, -NR^{45}R^{47} or -COOH, and wherein V is C$_{3-8}$-cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, which rings may optionally be substituted with one or more halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methylthio, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy; or

U is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

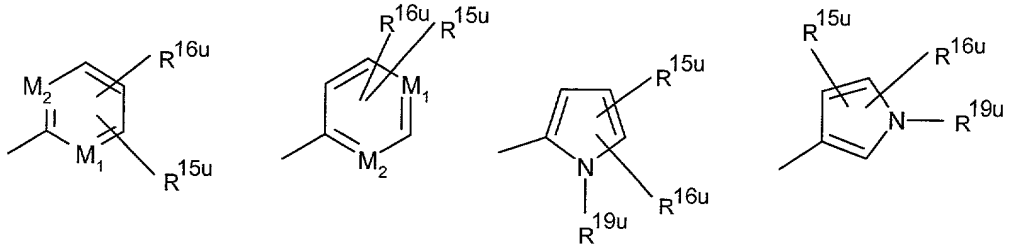
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



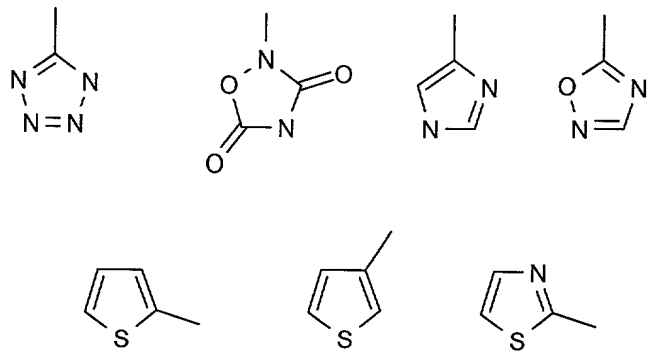
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

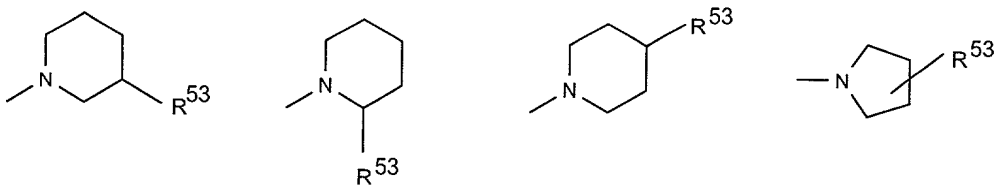
R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



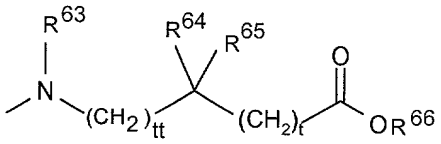
; or

Z is selected from



wherein R^{53} is $-(CH_2)_{pp}COOH$ wherein pp is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; or

Z is



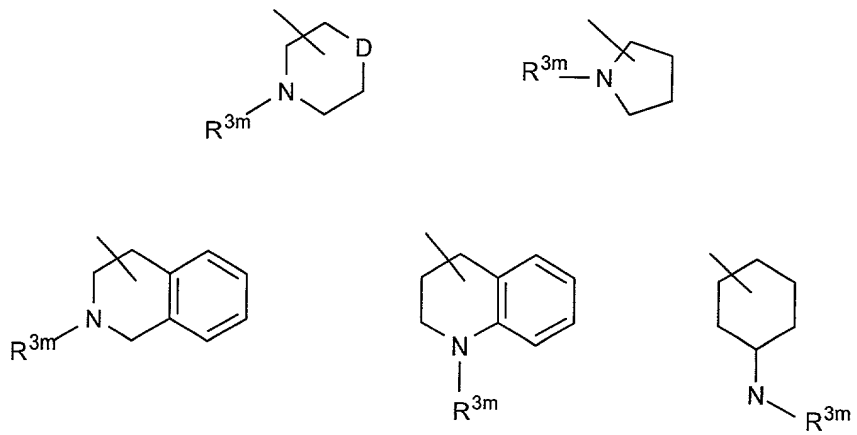
wherein tt and t independently are 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{63} is H, C_{1-6}-alkyl or optionally substituted benzyl;

R^{64} and R^{65} independently are H, C_{1-8}-alkyl, C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl, benzyl, or R^{64} and R^{65} together with the C-atom they are attached to form a 3 - 8 membered carbocyclic ring; and

R^{66} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

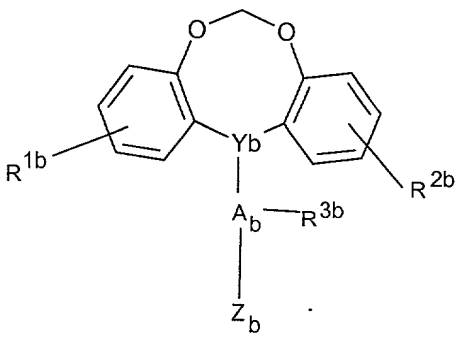
Z is selected from



wherein D is $-CH_2-$, -O-, -S- or $-N(R^7)-$ wherein R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{3m} is $-(CH_2)_{mm}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{mp}COR^4$ wherein mm and mp are 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^4 is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; or

having the general formula Ib



(Ib)

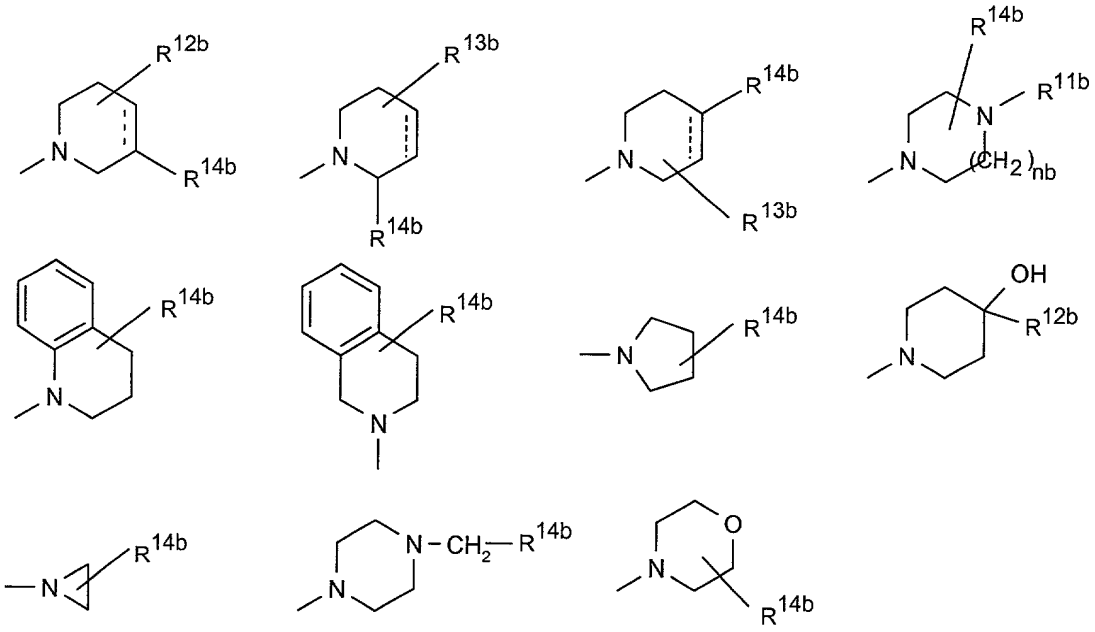
wherein R^{1b} and R^{2b} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

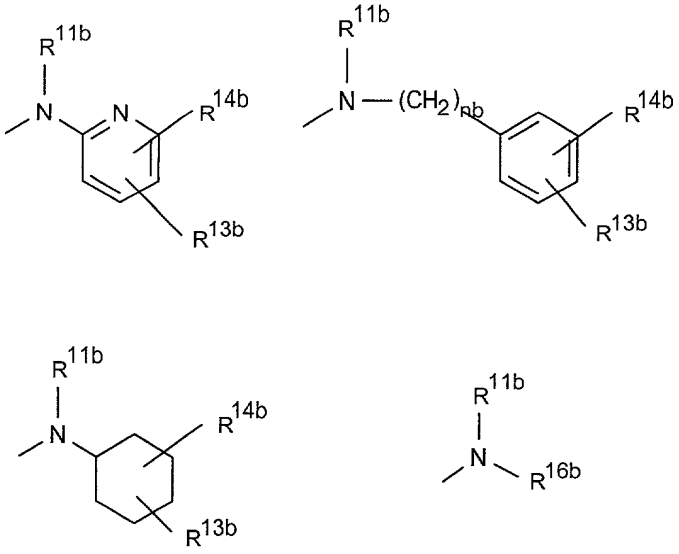
R^{3b} is hydrogen or C_{1-3}-alkyl; and

A_b is C_{1-3}-alkylene; and

Y_b is >CH-CH_2-, >C=CH-, >CH-O-, >C=N-, >N-CH_2- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

Z_b is selected from





wherein nb is 1 or 2; and

R^{11b} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{12b} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoro-methyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

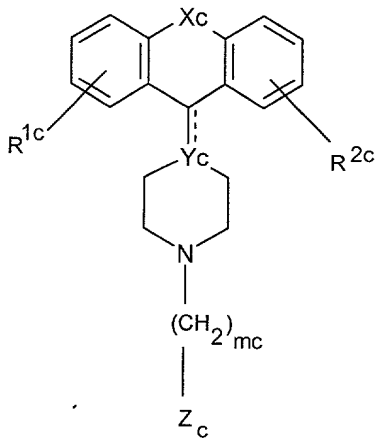
R^{13b} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14b} is $-(CH_2)_{mb}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{tb}COR^{15b}$ wherein mb is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and tb is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{15b} is -OH, NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{16b} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or $-B_b-COR^{15b}$, wherein B_b is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene and R^{15b} is the same as above; and

... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

having the general formula Ic



(Ic)

wherein R^{1c} and R^{2c} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

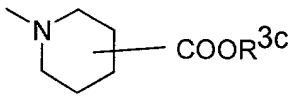
X_c is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^{6c}R^{7c})-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-$, $-N(R^{8c})-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^{8c})-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^{8c})-$, $-N(R^{8c})(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^{10c})CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^{10c})-$, -(C=O)-, $-N(R^{9c})-$ or -(S=O)- wherein R^{6c}, R^{7c}, R^{8c} and R^{9c} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein R^{10c} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl;

Y_c is C or N;

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond, and .... is a single bond when Y_c is N;

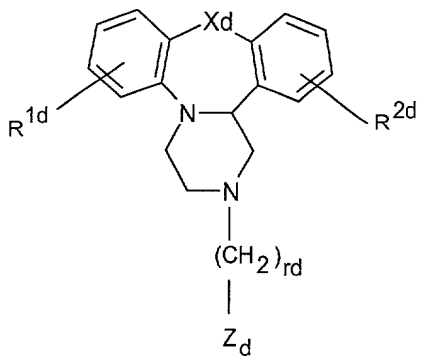
mc is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

Z_c is $-COOR^{3c}$ or



wherein R^{3c} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

having the general formula Id



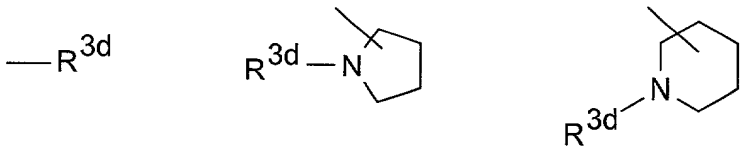
(Id)

wherein R^{1d} and R^{2d} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

X_d is -O-, -S- or -S(=O)-; and

rd is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 ; and

Z_d is selected from



wherein R^{3d} is $-(CH_2)_{md}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{pd}COR^{4d}$ wherein md and pd independently are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^{4d} is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof, for the manufacture of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of an indication related to angiogenesis] of any of the foregoing.

2. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 1 wherein the condition [angiogenesis] is related to cancer.

3. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 1 wherein the condition [angiogenesis] is related to ocular neovascularization.

4. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia_2

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

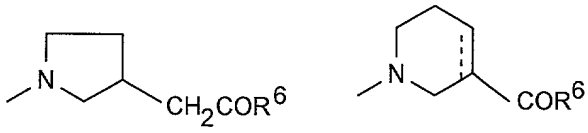
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -O-CH_2-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0, and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; [or]

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing [thereof].

5. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1- 4] claim 4 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(Fluoren-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5H-Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-butyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10H-Phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10H-Phenoxazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidinacetic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Trifluoromethyl-10H-phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Oxo-10H-phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-10-Oxa-5-aza-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,7-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,g]azocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10-Methyl-11-oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9(H)-Oxo-10H-acridin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenz[b,e]oxepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(Z)-(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(E)-(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

6. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

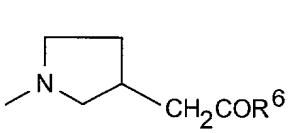
Y is -CH$_2$N(-)CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$N(-)CH$_2$-, -(C=O)N(-)CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$N(-)(C=O)-, -CH$_2$CH(-)CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$CH(-)CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$C(-)=CH-, -CH=C(-)CH$_2$-, -OCH(-)CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$CH(-)O-, -SCH(-)CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$CH(-)S-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

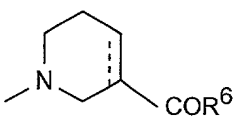
X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH$_2$CH$_2$-, -CH=CH-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-CH=CH-, -CH$_2$-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$CH$_2$CH$_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-O-, -S-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-S-, -N(R^8)-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from





wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; [or] and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

7. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 6 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

(R)-1-(3-(6,11-Dioxo-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5,11-Dihydro-10H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenzo[b,f][1,4]thiazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenzo[b,e][1,4]dithiepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,e][1,4]oxathiepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-10H-dibenz[b,g][1,5]oxazocin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-10H-dibenzo[b,g][1,5]thiazocin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-6H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,e]cycloocten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Oxo-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(7,12-Dihydro-6H-dibenzo[a,d]cycloocten-6-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,11-dihydro-dibenz[b,f]azepin-10-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Oxo-5,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11-Oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6-Oxo-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5,6,11,12-Tetrahydro-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11-Oxo-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Methyl-dibenz[b,f]azepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,7-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,g][1,5]oxazocin-6-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-dibenz[a,e]cycloocten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

8. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, NR^7R^8, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

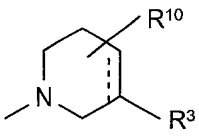
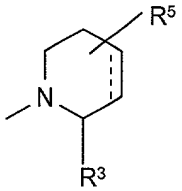
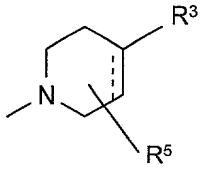
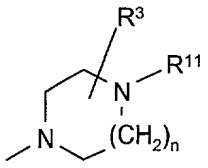
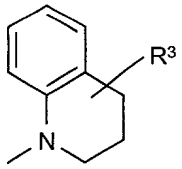
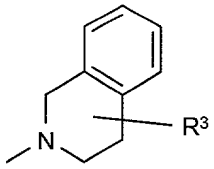
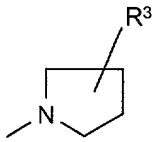
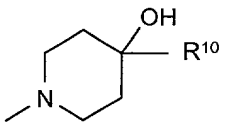
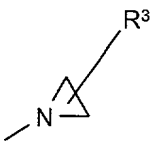
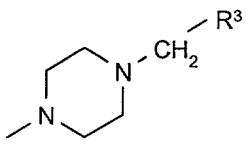
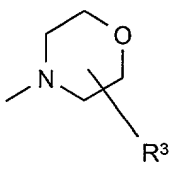
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -N(R^8)-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from

wherein n is 1 or 2; and

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; [or] and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

9. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 8 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidine-carboxamide;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinyl)methanol;

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinol;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid;

(2S,4R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-hydroxy-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-morpholinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-aziridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-4-isoquinolinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-methyl-[1,4]-diazepane-6-carboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-3-isoquinolinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydroxamide;

(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxamide;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10H-Phenoxazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-methyl-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-quinuclidiniumcarboxylate;

1-(3-(2,8-Dibromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3,7-Dichloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3,7-Dimethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Dimethylamino-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(Phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

10. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein in, formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

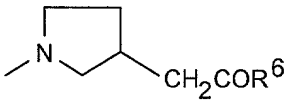
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

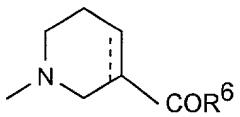
X is ortho-phenylene, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -$N(R^8)(CH_2)$-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -$CH(R^9)CH_2$- or -$CH_2CH(R^9)$- wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl and R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from





wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; [or]

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

11. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 10 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(3-(9H-Tribenz[b,d,f]azepin-9-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(Tribenzo[a,c,e]cyclohepten-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,6-dihydrodibenz[b,e]azepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Methyl-6H-dibenzo[c,f][1,2]thiazepin-5,5-dioxide-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Phenyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-11H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]thiazepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10-Oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6-Methyl-6,11-dihydro-dibenzo[c,f][1,2,5]thiadiazepin-5,5-dioxide-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,6-dihydrodibenz[b,e]azepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9H-Tribenzo[a,c,e]cyclohepten-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9H-Tribenzo[b,d,f]azepine-9-yl)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

12. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

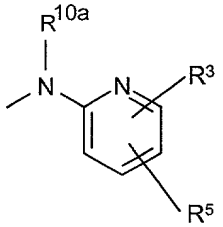
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

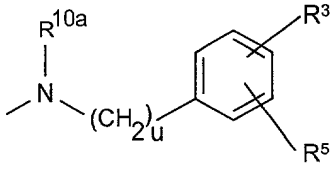
X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -N(R^8)-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

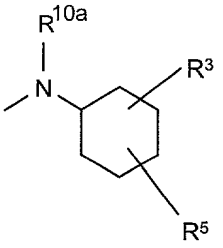
p and q are 0; and

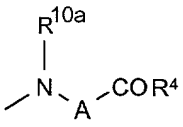
r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from









wherein u is 0 or 1;

R^3 is -$(CH_2)_m$OH or -$(CH_2)_s$COR^4 wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, -NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10a} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

A is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; [or] and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

13. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 12 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

3-(N-Methyl-N-(3-(10,11-dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)propionic acid;

4-(N-Methyl-N-(3-(10,11-dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)butyric acid;

3-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)propionic acid;

2-(N(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methyl-amino)succinic acid;

2-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-(N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)nicotinic acid;

2-((N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)methyl)benzoic acid;

2-((N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)-1-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propylamino)pyridin-3-ol;

3-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-(N-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

5-Bromo-2-(N-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

14. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

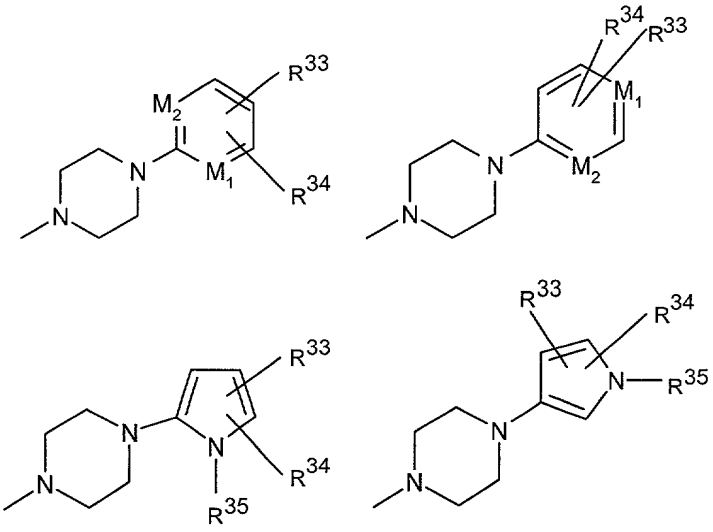
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- , >C=CH- or >CH-O- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N(CH_3)SO_2-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



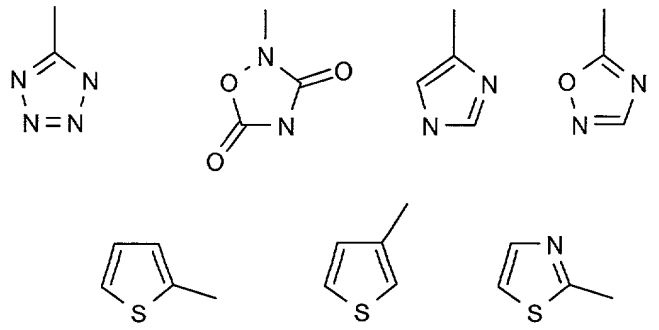
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{35} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{33} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{34} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_wCOR^{31}$, $-(CH_2)_wOH$ or $-(CH_2)_wSO_2R^{31}$ wherein R^{31} is hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or NHR^{32}, wherein R^{32} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and w is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{34} is selected from



[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

15. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 14 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

2-(4-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(2-Chloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(2-pyridyl)piperazine;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridine-carboxylic acid;

2-(4-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

6-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-5-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-piperazine;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-benzonitrile;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-benzoic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyl)piperazine;

2-(4-(2-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)ethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-yloxy)ethyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

6-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

6-(4-(3-(Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-pyridine-2-carboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

16. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

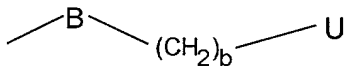
Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -CH_2OCH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -$CH_2CH(R^9)$-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl;

and p and q are 0; and

r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

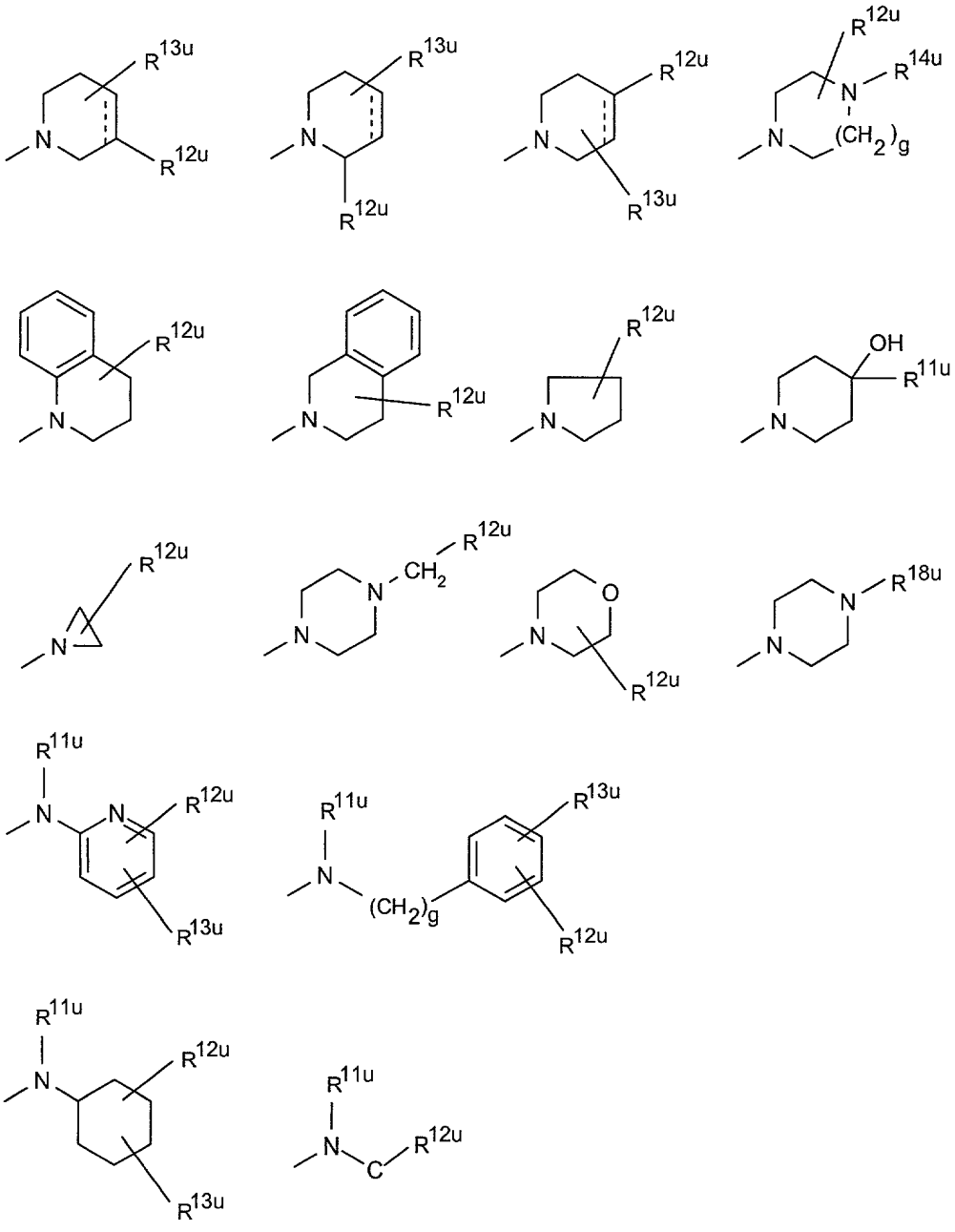
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH$_2$)-, -(CR^{49}R^{40})-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C$_{1-6}$-unbranched alkyl, C$_{3-6}$-branched alkyl or C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

U is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

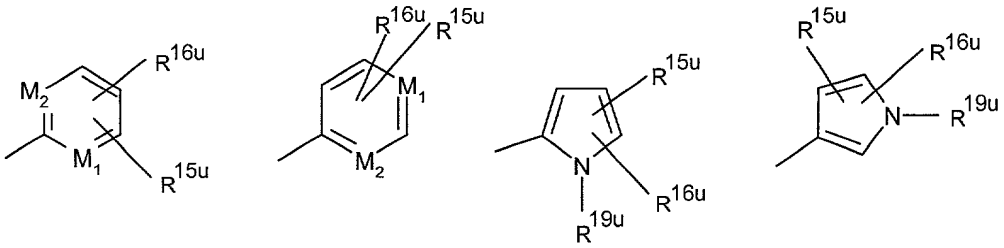
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



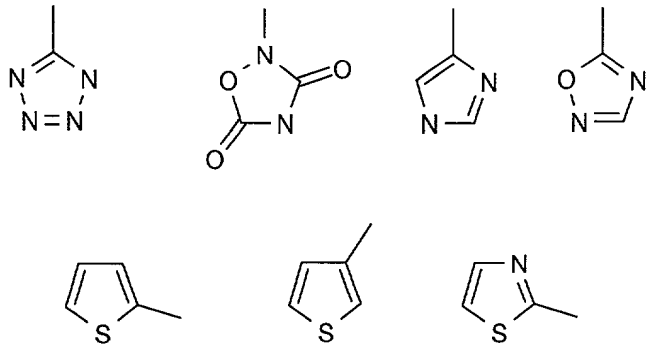
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

17. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 16 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(2R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2Z)-butenyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propionyl)-(3R)-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2E)-butenyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-methyl-3-oxopropyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-butynyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxy-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-pentyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Trifluoromethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-nicotinic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-cyclopropylmethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-cyclopentylmethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-3-oxopropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-butyn-1-yl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid

(R)-1-((2R)-Methyl-3-(3-methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)1-methylpropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)methyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidinylacetic acid;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methylpropyl)-4-piperazinyl)-nicotinic

acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-pentyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)nicotinic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-methyl-3-oxo-propyl)-3-piperidinearboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propionyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propionyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylcarbonyl)-1-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-3-oxo-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methylpropyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxy-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxypropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-propoxypropyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(N-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-N-methylamino)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

18. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or methylthio, $-NR^7R^8$ or $-SO_2NR^7R^8$ wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

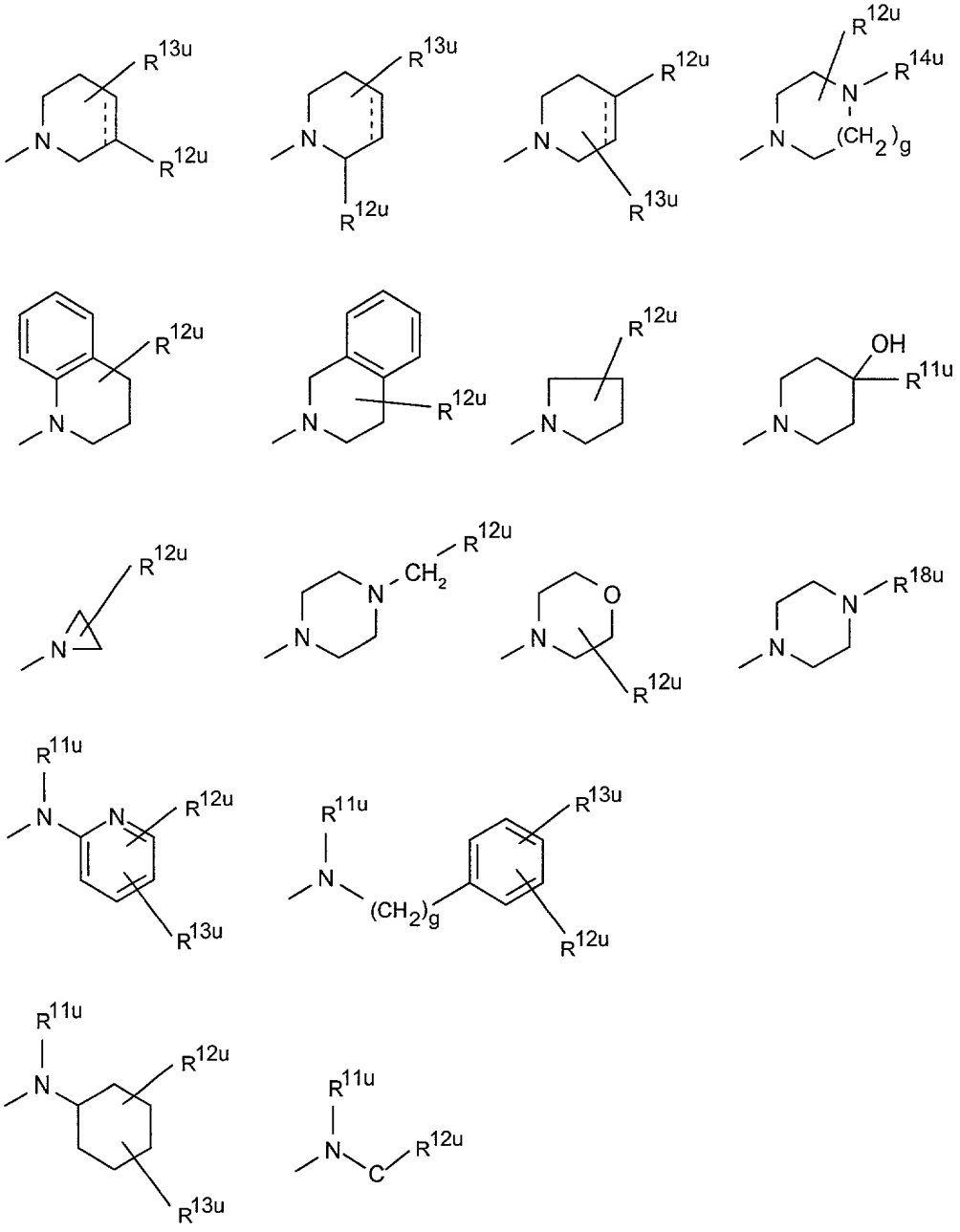
Y is >CH-O- or >CH-$S(O)_y$ wherein y is 0, 1 or 2, or $-N(R^8)-$ wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

X is completion of an optional bond, ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^7R^8)-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, $-N(R^8)-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^8)-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-CH_2OCH_2-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^8)-$, $-N(R^8)(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^9)CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^9)-$, -(C=O)-, $-N(R^8)-$ or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

Z is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

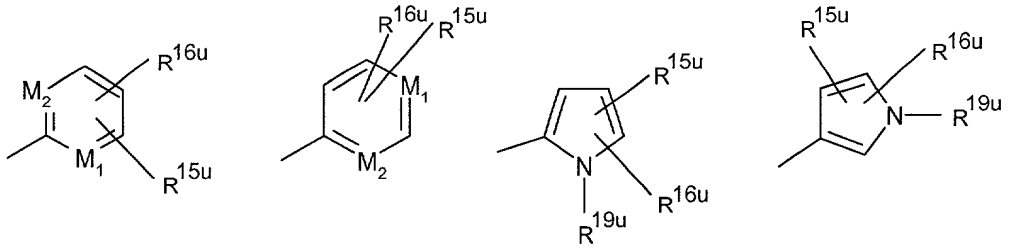
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



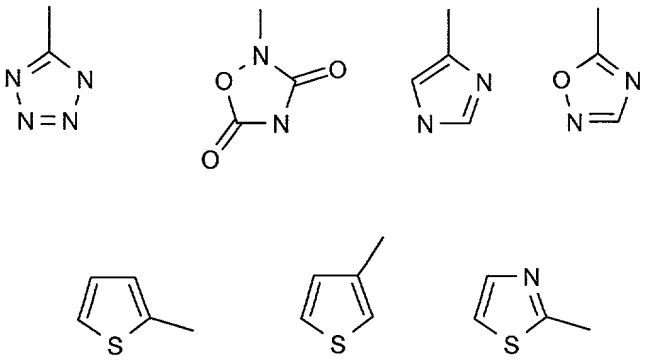
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

19. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 18 wherein, the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

20. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1

wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

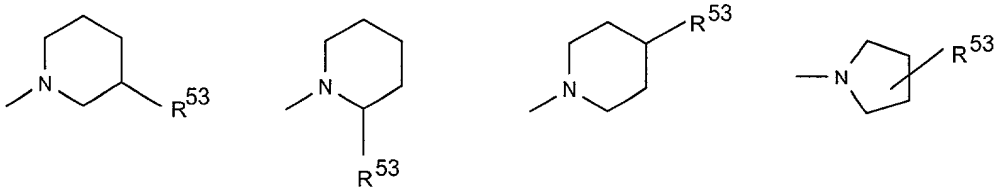
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N$(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein R^{53} is -$(CH_2)_{pp}$COOH wherein pp is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; [or] and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

21. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 20 wherein, the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)ethyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Xanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)-butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-2-yl)-propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(1-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Trifluoromethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Hydroxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Fluoro-6,11-dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)-propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-2-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)-propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)-butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10H-Anthracen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10H-Anthracen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

5-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

22. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the] claim[s] 1[-3] wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

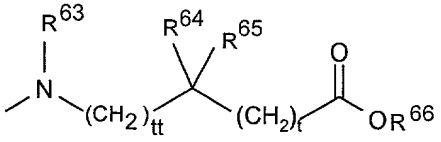
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- , >C=CH- or >CH-O- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N(CH_3)SO_2-, -SO_2N(CH_3)-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is



wherein tt and t independently are 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{63} is H, C_{1-6}-alkyl or optionally substituted benzyl;

R^{64} and R^{65} independently are H, C_{1-8}-alkyl, C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl, benzyl, or R^{64} and R^{65} together with the C-atom they are attached to form a 3 - 8 membered carbocyclic ring; and

R^{66} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; [or]
and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

23. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 22 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

24. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

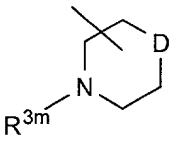
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

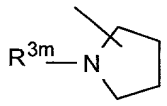
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

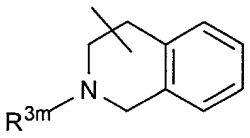
p and q are 0; and

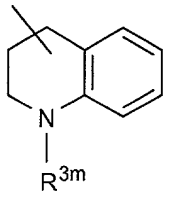
r is 0, 1 or 2; and

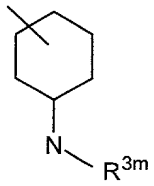
Z is selected from











wherein D is -CH_2-, -O-, -S- or -N(R^7)- wherein R^7 is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{3m} is $-(CH_2)_{mm}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{mp}COR^4$ wherein mm and mp are 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^4 is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; [or] and
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

25. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 24 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

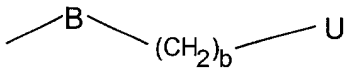
3-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-pyrrolidin-1-yl)-propionic acid;

(2-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-morpholin-4-yl)-acetic acid;

(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[(b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-piperidyl)acetic acid,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

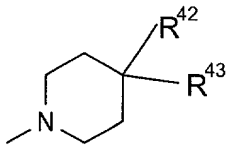
26. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,
R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, methylthio, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and
Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, $-CH_2CH_2-$, -CH=CH-CH_2-, $-CH_2$-CH=CH-, $-CH_2$-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, $-OCH_2O-$, $-CH_2OCH_2-$, -S-CH_2-, $-CH_2$-S-, $-(CH_2)N(R^8)-$, $-N(R^8)(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^9)CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^9)-$, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and
p and q are 0; and
r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH$_2$)-, -(CR^{49}R^{40})-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C$_{1-6}$-unbranched alkyl, C$_{3-6}$-branched alkyl or C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

U is



wherein R^{42} is hydrogen, -(CH$_2$)$_c$OH or -(CH$_2$)$_d$COR^{47} wherein c is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and d is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{47} is -OH, -NHR^{44} or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy wherein R^{44} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

R^{43} is cyano, -NR^{45}R^{46}, -NR^{45}-V or -(CHR^{48})$_e$-V wherein R^{45} and R^{46} independently are hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl and wherein e is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and wherein R^{48} is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl, C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy, -NR^{45}R^{46} or -COOH, and wherein V is C$_{3-8}$-cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, which rings may optionally be substituted with one or more halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methylthio, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy; [or] and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

27. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 26 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-phenyl-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(4-Methylphenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-anilino-4-

piperidinecarboxamide;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidyl)-2-phenylacetonitrile;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinyl)-2-phenylacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-cyano-4 piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

28. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ib,

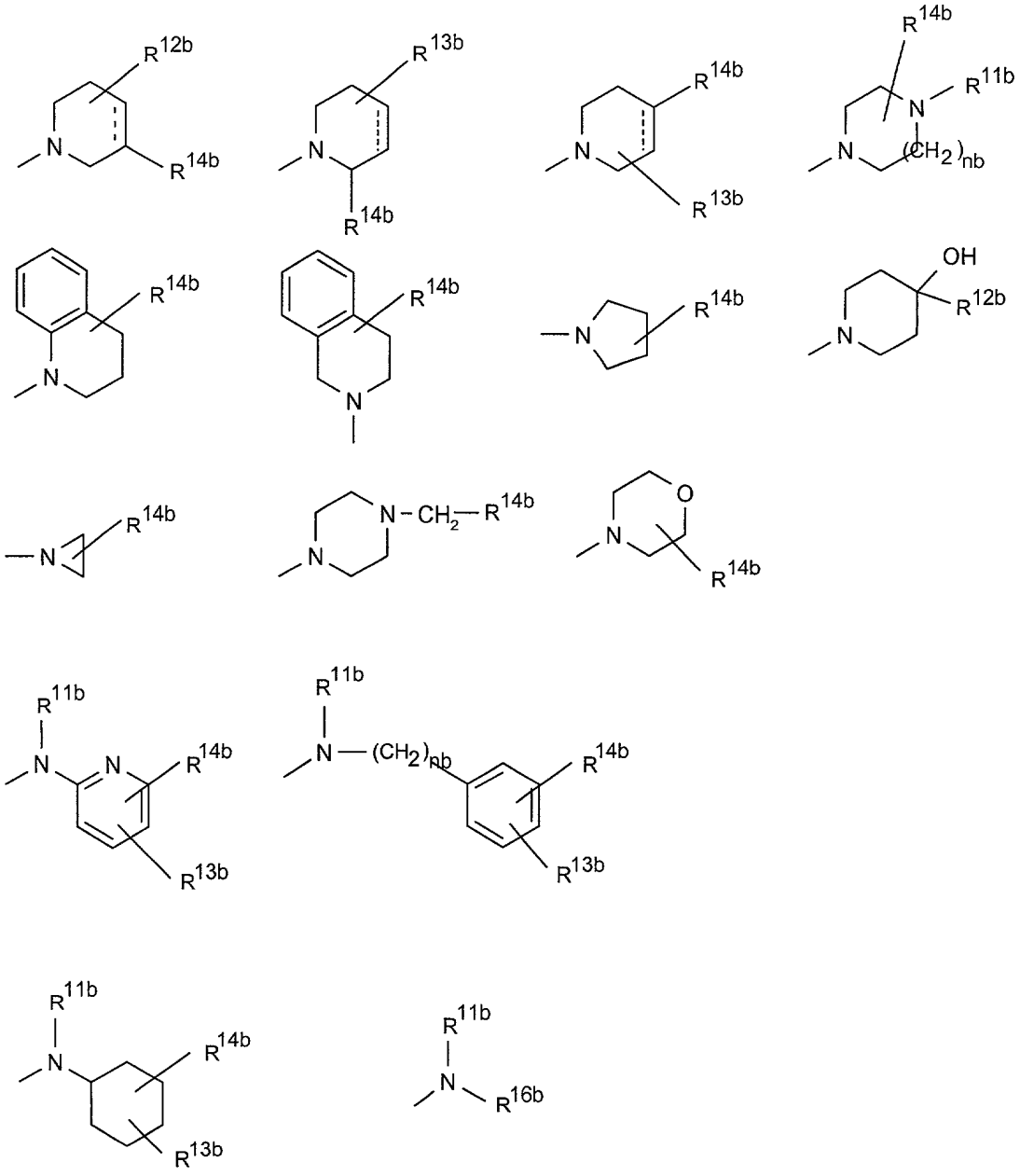
R^{1b} and R^{2b} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{3b} is hydrogen or C_{1-3}-alkyl; and

A_b is C_{1-3}-alkylene; and

Y_b is >CH-CH_2-, >C=CH-, >CH-O-, >C=N-, >N-CH_2- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

Z_b is selected from



wherein nb is 1 or 2; and

R^{11b} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{12b} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoro-methyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{13b} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14b} is $-(CH_2)_{mb}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{tb}COR^{15b}$ wherein mb is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and tb is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{15b} is -OH, NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{16b} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or -B_b-COR^{15b}, wherein B_b is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene and R^{15b} is the same as above; and

... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; [or]

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

29. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 28 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g[1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Chloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(2-dimethylamino)ethoxy-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propyl-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(3-dimethylamino-1-methyl)ethoxy-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(2-dimethylaminopropylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino-1-methylpropylidene)-12H-dibenzo-[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Fluoro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Methyl-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Chloro-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

30. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Ic,

R^{1c} and R^{2c} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

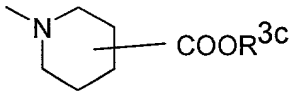
X_c is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^{6c}R^{7c})-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, $-N(R^{8c})-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^{8c})-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^{8c})-$, $-N(R^{8c})(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^{10c})CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^{10c})-$, -(C=O)-, $-N(R^{9c})-$ or -(S=O)- wherein R^{6c}, R^{7c}, R^{8c} and R^{9c} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein R^{10c} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

Y_c is C or N; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond, and .... is a single bond when Y_c is N; and

mc is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

Z_c is $-COOR^{3c}$ or



wherein R^{3c} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl;[or]

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

31. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 30 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

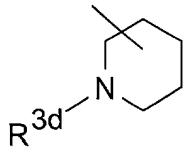
32. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3] claim 1 wherein, in formula Id,

R^{1d} and R^{2d} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

X_d is -O-, -S- or -S(=O)-; and

rd is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 ; and

Z_d is selected from



wherein R^{3d} is $-(CH_2)_{md}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{pd}COR^{4d}$ wherein md and pd independently are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^{4d} is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; [or]
and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

33. (Amended) The [use] method according to [anyone of the claims 1-3 and] claim 32 wherein the compound is selected from the [following] group consisting of:

4-(1,3,4,14b-Tetrahydro-2H-dibenzo[b,f]pyrazino[1,2-d][1,4]oxazepin-2-yl)-butanoic acid;

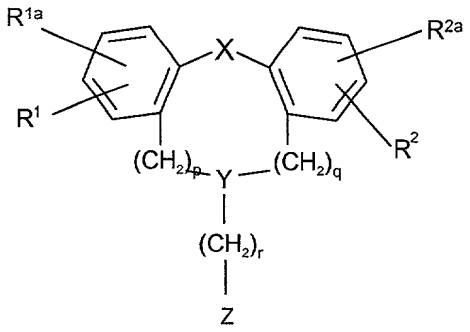
4-(1,3,4,14b-Tetrahydro-2H-dibenzo[b,f]pyrazino[1,2-d][1,4]thiazepin-2-yl)-butanoic acid,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

34. (Amended) The [use] method according to [any of the claims 1-33] claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is in a form suitable for oral administration.

Pending claims after amendment – clean version

1. (Amended) A method for treating a condition related to angiogenesis, said method comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatement an effective amount of a compound having the general formula Ia



(Ia)

wherein R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, hydroxy, NR^7R^8, cyano, methylthio or $-SO_2NR^7R^8$ wherein $R^7$and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; or

Y is -CH_2N(-)CH_2-, -CH_2N(-)CH_2-, -(C=O)N(-)CH_2-, -CH_2N(-)(C=O)-, -CH_2CH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2C(-)=CH-, -CH=C(-)CH_2-, -OCH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)O-, -SCH(-)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(-)S-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; or

Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

Y is >CH-O- or >CH-$S(O)_y$ wherein y is 0, 1 or 2, or -N(R^8)- wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

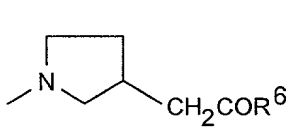
X is completion of an optional bond, ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -CH_2OCH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-

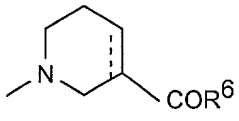
, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 0,1, 2 , 3 or 4; and

Z is selected from

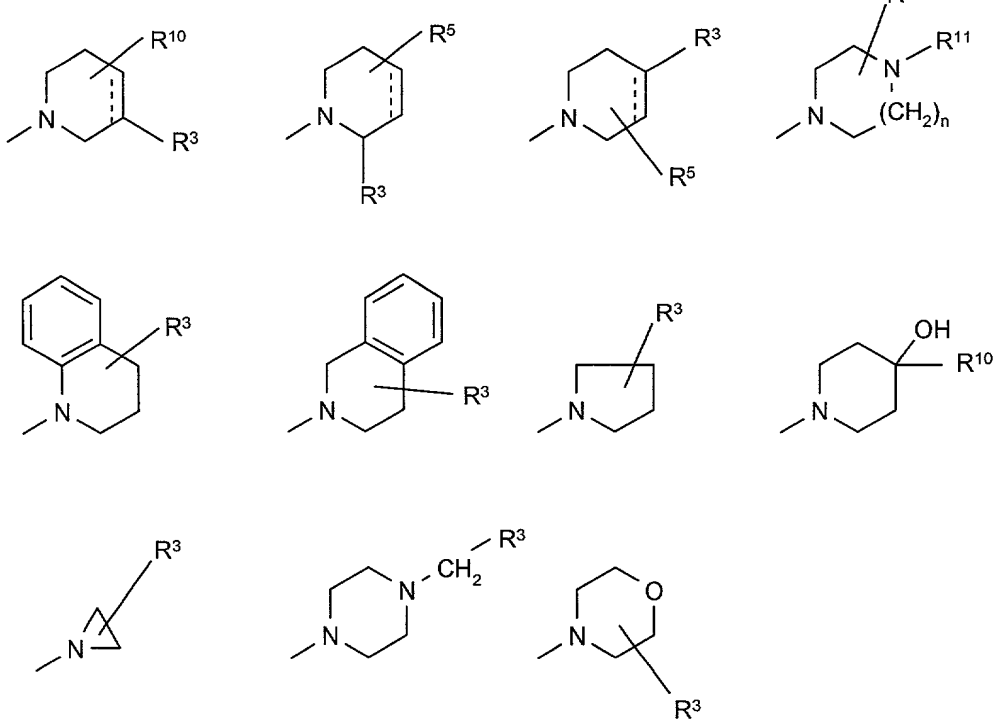




wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

Z is selected from



wherein n is 1 or 2;

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

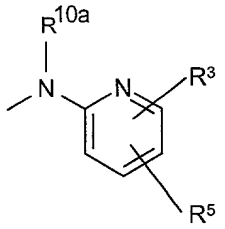
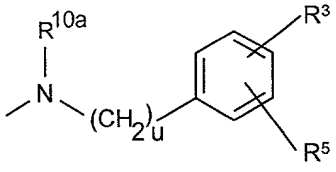
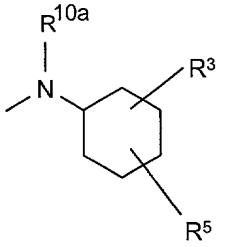
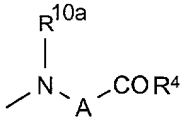
R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

Z is selected from

wherein u is 0 or 1;

R^3 is $-(CH_2)_mOH$ or $-(CH_2)_sCOR^4$ wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

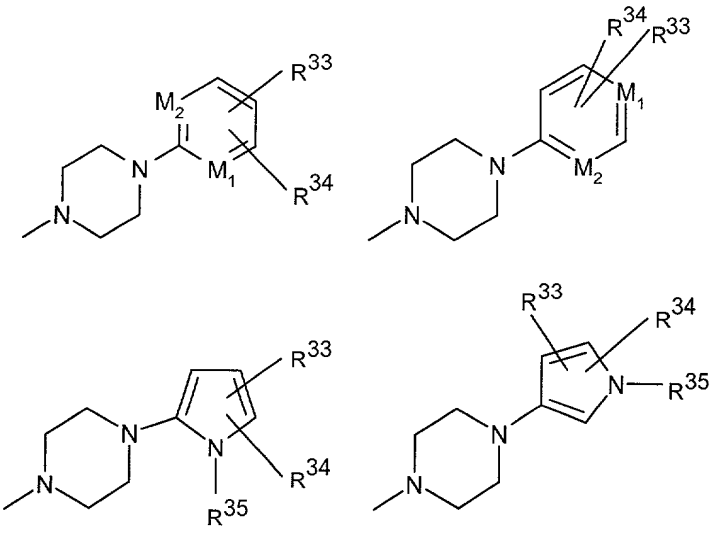
R^4 is -OH, $-NH_2$, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10a} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

A is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; or

Z is selected from



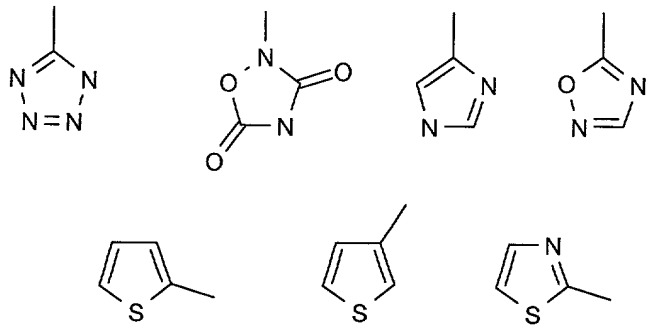
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{35} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{33} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

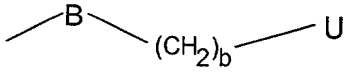
R^{34} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_wCOR^{31}$, $-(CH_2)_wOH$ or $-(CH_2)_wSO_2R^{31}$ wherein R^{31} is hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or NHR^{32}, wherein R^{32} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and w is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{34} is selected from



; or

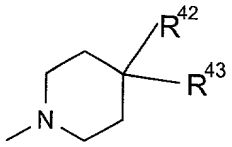
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH$_2$)-, -(CR^{49}R^{40})-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C$_{1-6}$-unbranched alkyl, C$_{3-6}$-branched alkyl or C$_{3-7}$-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

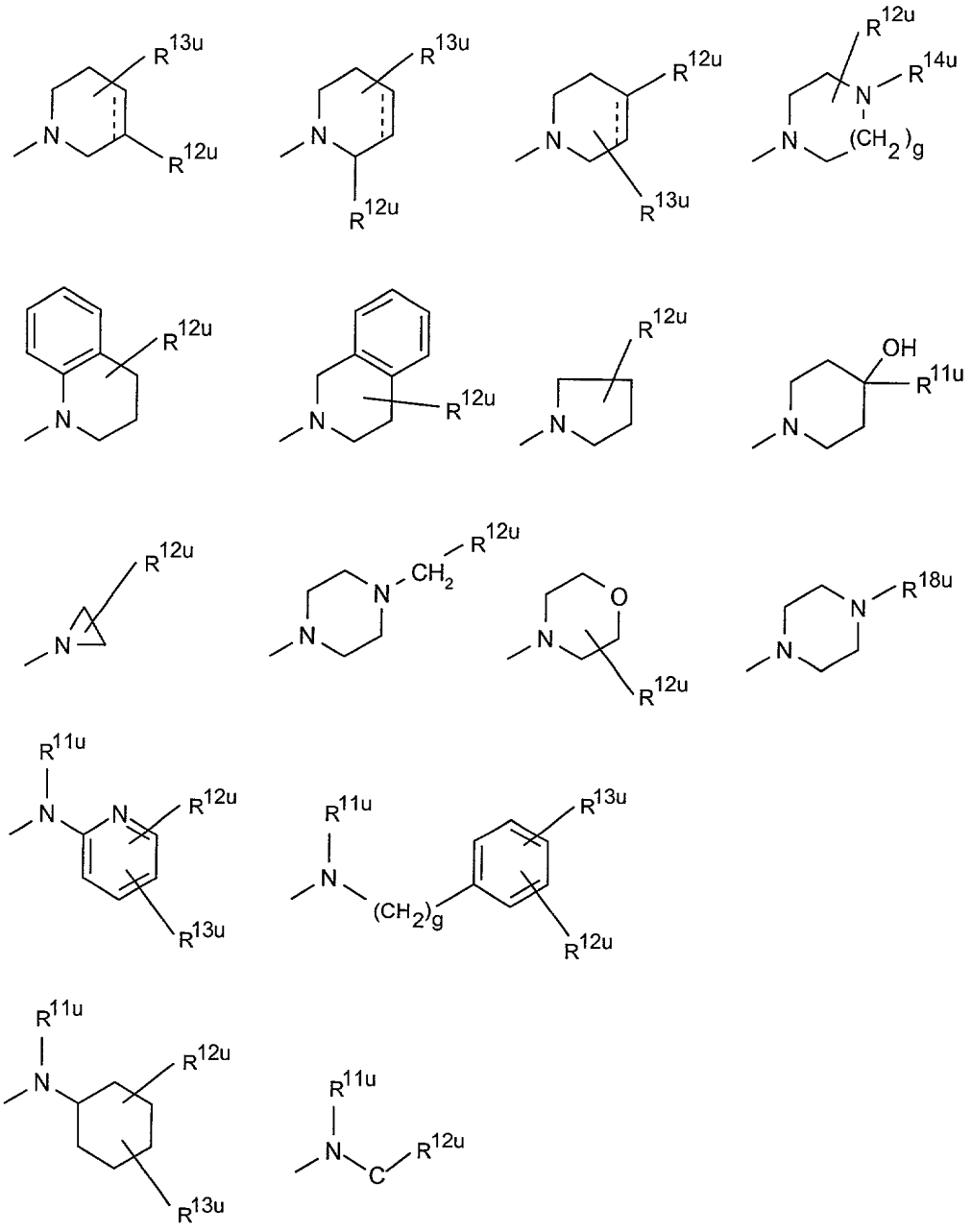
U is



wherein R^{42} is hydrogen, -(CH$_2$)$_c$OH or -(CH$_2$)$_d$COR^{47} wherein c is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and d is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{47} is -OH, -NHR^{44} or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy wherein R^{44} is hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl; and

R^{43} is cyano, -NR^{45}R^{47}, -NR^{45}-V or -(CHR^{48})$_e$-V wherein R^{45} and R^{47} independently are hydrogen or C$_{1-6}$-alkyl and wherein e is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and wherein R^{48} is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl, C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy, -NR^{45}R^{47} or -COOH, and wherein V is C$_{3-8}$-cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, which rings may optionally be substituted with one or more halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methylthio, C$_{1-6}$-alkyl or C$_{1-6}$-alkoxy; or

U is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

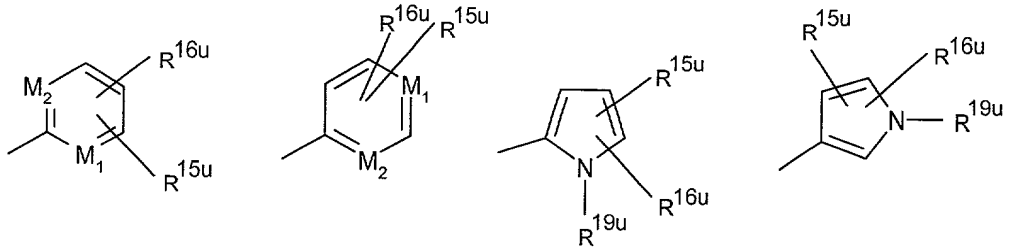
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



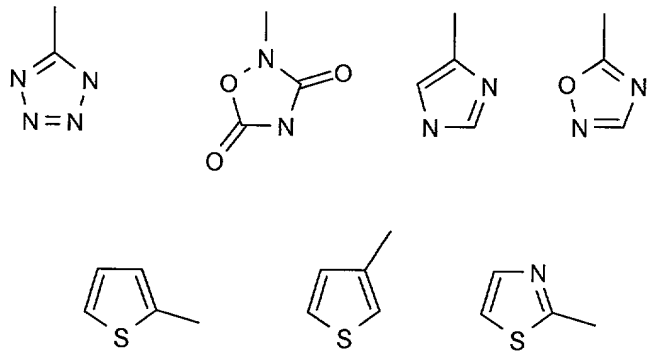
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

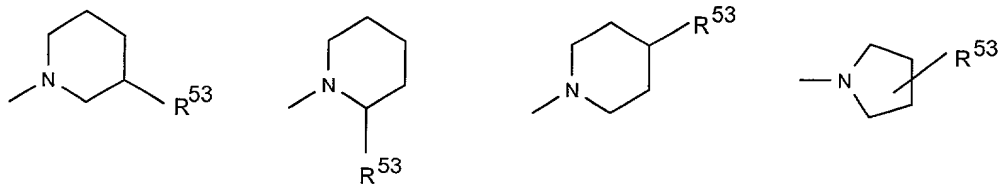
R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



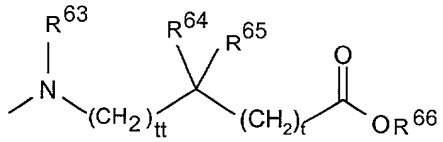
; or

Z is selected from



wherein R^{53} is $-(CH_2)_{pp}COOH$ wherein pp is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; or

Z is



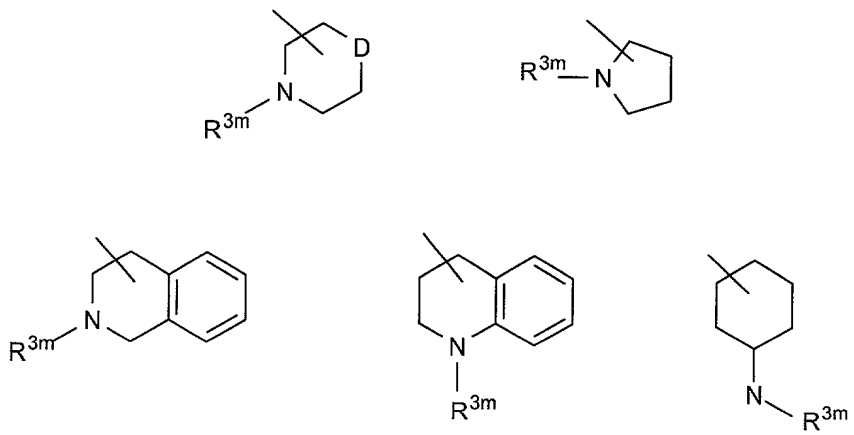
wherein tt and t independently are 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{63} is H, C_{1-6}-alkyl or optionally substituted benzyl;

R^{64} and R^{65} independently are H, C_{1-8}-alkyl, C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl, benzyl, or R^{64} and R^{65} together with the C-atom they are attached to form a 3 - 8 membered carbocyclic ring; and

R^{66} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

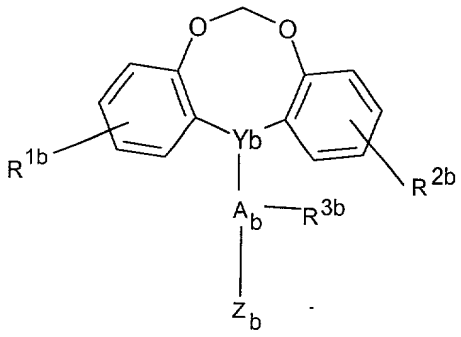
Z is selected from



wherein D is $-CH_2-$, -O-, -S- or $-N(R^7)-$ wherein R^7 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{3m} is $-(CH_2)_{mm}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{mp}COR^4$ wherein mm and mp are 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^4 is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; or

having the general formula Ib



(Ib)

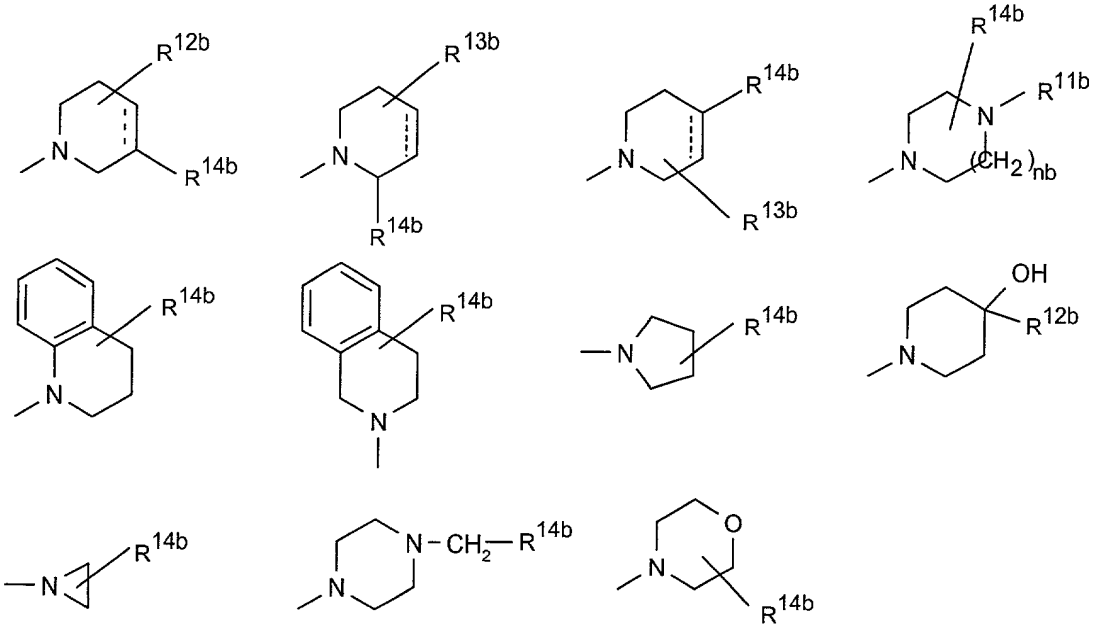
wherein R^{1b} and R^{2b} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

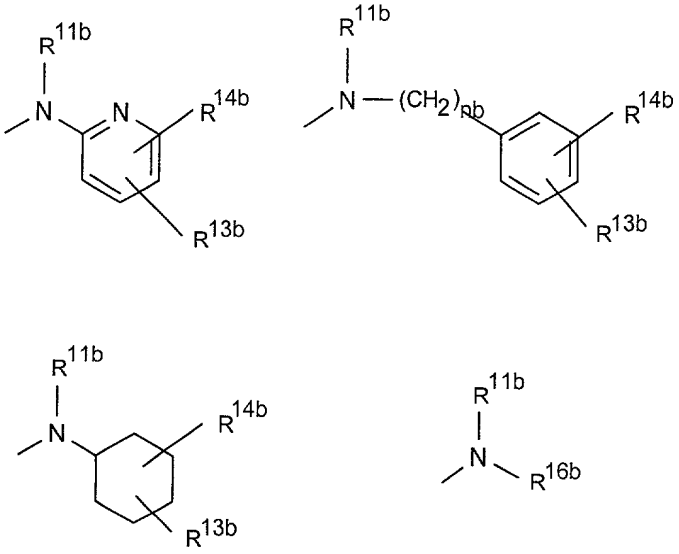
R^{3b} is hydrogen or C_{1-3}-alkyl; and

A_b is C_{1-3}-alkylene; and

Y_b is >C-CH-CH_2-, >C=CH-, >CH-O-, >C=N-, >N-CH_2- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

Z_b is selected from





wherein nb is 1 or 2; and

R^{11b} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{12b} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoro-methyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

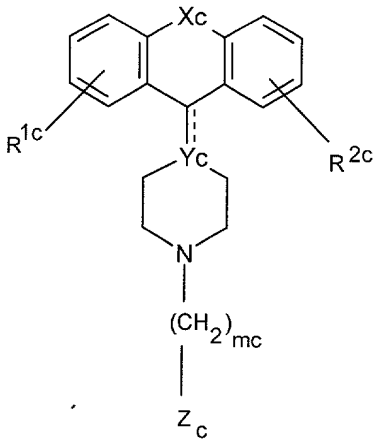
R^{13b} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14b} is $-(CH_2)_{mb}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{tb}COR^{15b}$ wherein mb is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and tb is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{15b} is -OH, NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{16b} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or $-B_b-COR^{15b}$, wherein B_b is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene and R^{15b} is the same as above; and

... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; or

having the general formula Ic



(Ic)

wherein R^{1c} and R^{2c} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

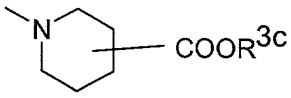
X_c is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^{6c}R^{7c})-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, $-N(R^{8c})-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^{8c})-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^{8c})-$, $-N(R^{8c})(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^{10c})CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^{10c})-$, -(C=O)-, $-N(R^{9c})-$ or -(S=O)- wherein R^{6c}, R^{7c}, R^{8c} and R^{9c} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein R^{10c} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl;

Y_c is C or N;

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond, and .... is a single bond when Y_c is N;

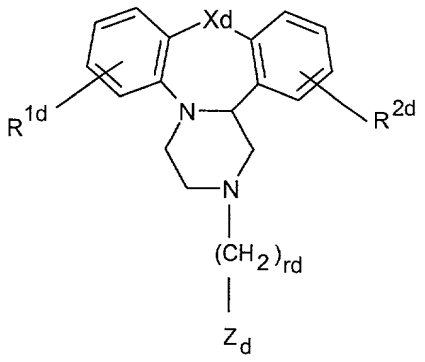
mc is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

Z_c is $-COOR^{3c}$ or



wherein R^{3c} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; or

having the general formula Id



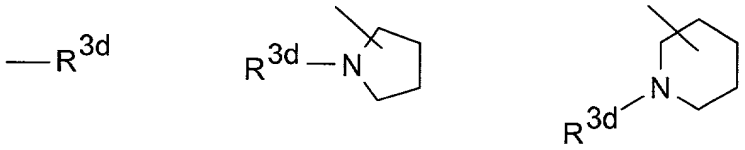
(Id)

wherein R^{1d} and R^{2d} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

X_d is -O-, -S- or -S(=O)-; and

rd is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 ; and

Z_d is selected from



wherein R^{3d} is $-(CH_2)_{md}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{pd}COR^{4d}$ wherein md and pd independently are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^{4d} is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the condition is related to cancer.

3. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the condition is related to ocular neovascularization.

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

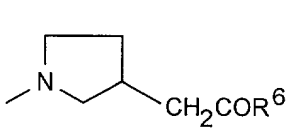
Y is $>\underline{N}\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$, $>\underline{C}H\text{-}CH_2\text{-}$ or $>\underline{C}\text{=}CH\text{-}$ wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

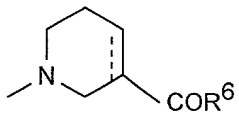
X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -O-CH_2-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0, and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from





wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 4 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(Fluoren-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5H-Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-butyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10H-Phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10H-Phenoxazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidinacetic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Trifluoromethyl-10H-phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Oxo-10H-phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-10-Oxa-5-aza-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydro-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,7-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,g]azocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10-Methyl-11-oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9(H)-Oxo-10H-acridin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenz[b,e]oxepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(Z)-(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(E)-(R)-1-(3-(2-Iodo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydrochloride,

[or] and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt [thereof] of any of the foregoing.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

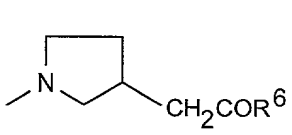
Y is -$\underline{C}H_2\underline{N}(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2\underline{N}(-)\underline{C}H_2$-, -($\underline{C}$=O)$\underline{N}(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2\underline{N}(-)(\underline{C}$=O)-, -$\underline{C}H_2\underline{C}H(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2\underline{C}H(-)\underline{C}H_2$-, -$\underline{C}H_2\underline{C}(-)$=CH-, -CH=$\underline{C}(-)\underline{C}H_2$-, -$\underline{OC}H(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2\underline{C}H(-)\underline{O}$-, -$\underline{SC}H(-)CH_2$-, -$CH_2\underline{C}H(-)\underline{S}$-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

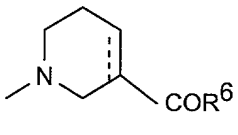
X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -N(R^8)-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from





wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 6 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

(R)-1-(3-(6,11-Dioxo-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5,11-Dihydro-10H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenzo[b,f][1,4]thiazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenzo[b,e][1,4]dithiepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11H-Dibenz[b,e][1,4]oxathiepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-10H-dibenz[b,g][1,5]oxazocin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-10H-dibenzo[b,g][1,5]thiazocin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-6H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,e]cycloocten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Oxo-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(7,12-Dihydro-6H-dibenzo[a,d]cycloocten-6-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,11-dihydro-dibenz[b,f]azepin-10-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Oxo-5,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11-Oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6-Oxo-11,12-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxazepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5,6,11,12-Tetrahydro-dibenz[b,f]azocin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11-Oxo-6,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,e]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Methyl-dibenz[b,f]azepin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6,7-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,g][1,5]oxazocin-6-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(11,12-Dihydro-dibenz[a,e]cycloocten-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

8. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, NR^7R^8, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

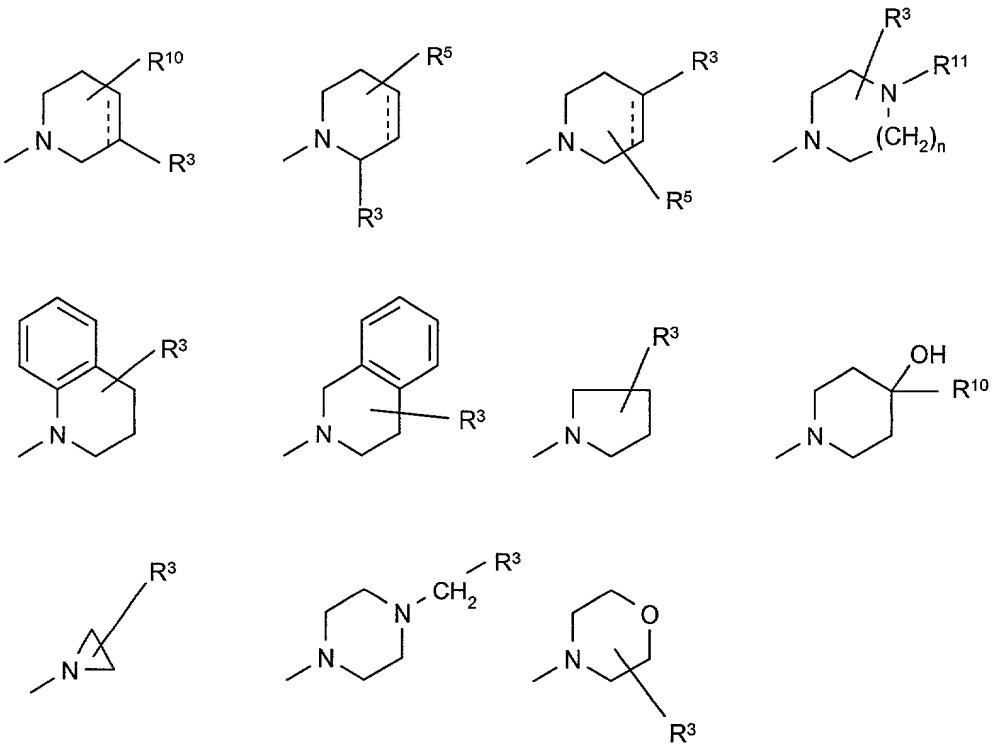
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -N(R^8)-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein n is 1 or 2; and

R^3 is -$(CH_2)_m$OH or -$(CH_2)_s$COR^4 wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, -NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{11} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

9. (Amended) The method according to claim 8 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidine-carboxamide;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinyl)methanol;

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinol;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid;

(2S,4R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-hydroxy-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-morpholinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-aziridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-4-isoquinolinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-methyl-[1,4]-diazepane-6-carboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-3-isoquinolinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid hydroxamide;

(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)acetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperazinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxamide;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10H-Phenoxazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-methyl-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-quinuclidiniumcarboxylate;

1-(3-(2,8-Dibromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3,7-Dichloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3,7-Dimethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Dimethylamino-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(S)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-6,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-2-piperidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(Phenothiazin-10-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-2-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]oxepin-11-ylidene)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

10. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein in, formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

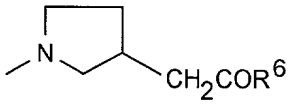
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

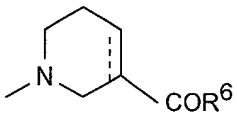
X is ortho-phenylene, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -$N(R^8)(CH_2)$-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -$CH(R^9)CH_2$- or -$CH_2CH(R^9)$- wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl and R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from





wherein R^6 is OH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 10 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(9H-Tribenz[b,d,f]azepin-9-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(Tribenzo[a,c,e]cyclohepten-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,6-dihydrodibenz[b,e]azepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6-Methyl-6H-dibenzo[c,f][1,2]thiazepin-5,5-dioxide-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Phenyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,e]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-11H-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]thiazepin-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-dibenzo[b,e][1,4]diazepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10-Oxo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(6-Methyl-6,11-dihydro-dibenzo[c,f][1,2,5]thiadiazepin-5,5-dioxide-11-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(5-Methyl-5,6-dihydrodibenz[b,e]azepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9H-Tribenzo[a,c,e]cyclohepten-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(9H-Tribenzo[b,d,f]azepine-9-yl)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

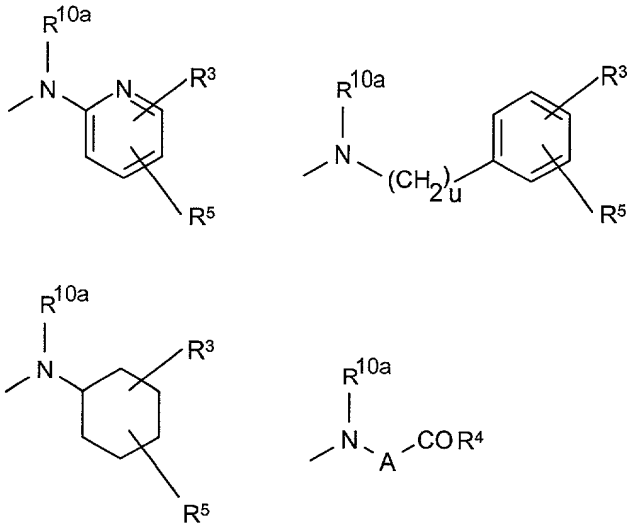
12. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,
R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- or >C=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and
X is -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -S-CH_2-, -

CH_2-S-, -N(R^8)-, -(C=O)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein u is 0 or 1;

R^3 is -$(CH_2)_m$OH or -$(CH_2)_s$COR^4 wherein m is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and s is 0 or 1 and wherein

R^4 is -OH, -NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^5 is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{10a} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

A is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 12 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(N-Methyl-N-(3-(10,11-dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)propionic acid;

4-(N-Methyl-N-(3-(10,11-dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)butyric acid;

3-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)propionic acid;

2-(N(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methyl-amino)succinic acid;

2-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-(N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)nicotinic acid;

2-((N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)methyl)benzoic acid;

2-((N-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-N-methylamino)-1-cyclohexanecarboxylic acid;

2-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propylamino)pyridin-3-ol;

3-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-((3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

2-(N-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid;

5-Bromo-2-(N-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)amino)benzoic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia, R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy,C_{1-6}-alkyl

or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

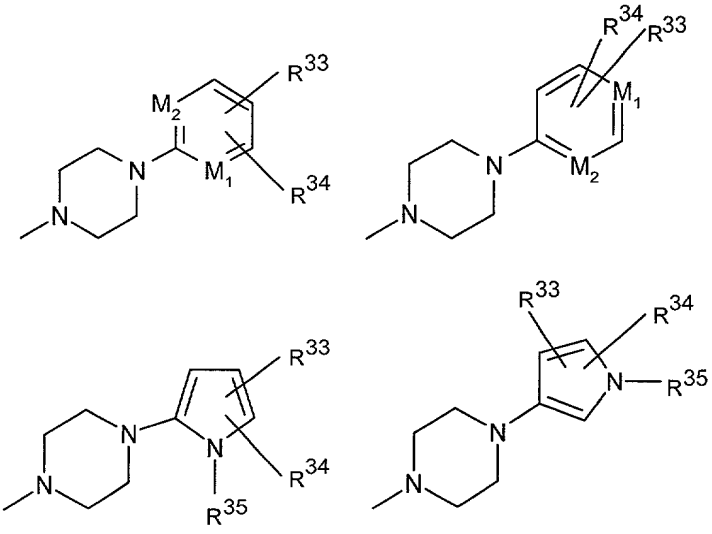
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- , >C=CH- or >CH-O- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N(CH_3)SO_2-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



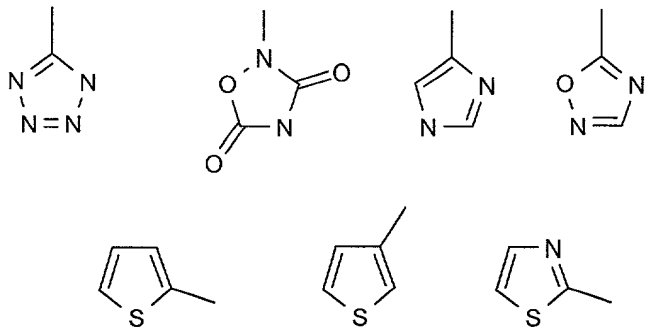
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{35} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{33} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{34} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, -(CH_2)$_w$$COR^{31}$, -($CH_2$)$_w$OH or -($CH_2$)$_w$$SO_2R^{31}$ wherein R^{31} is hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or NHR^{32}, wherein R^{32} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and w is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{34} is selected from



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

15. (Amended) The method according to claim 14 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

2-(4-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(2-Chloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(2-pyridyl)piperazine;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridine-carboxylic acid;

2-(4-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

6-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-5-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-piperazine;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-benzonitrile;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-benzoic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-2-pyridyl)piperazine;

2-(4-(2-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)ethyl)piperazin-1-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(2-(6,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,e]thiepin-11-yloxy)ethyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

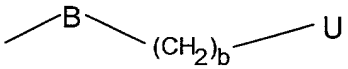
6-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperazin-1-yl)-2-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid;

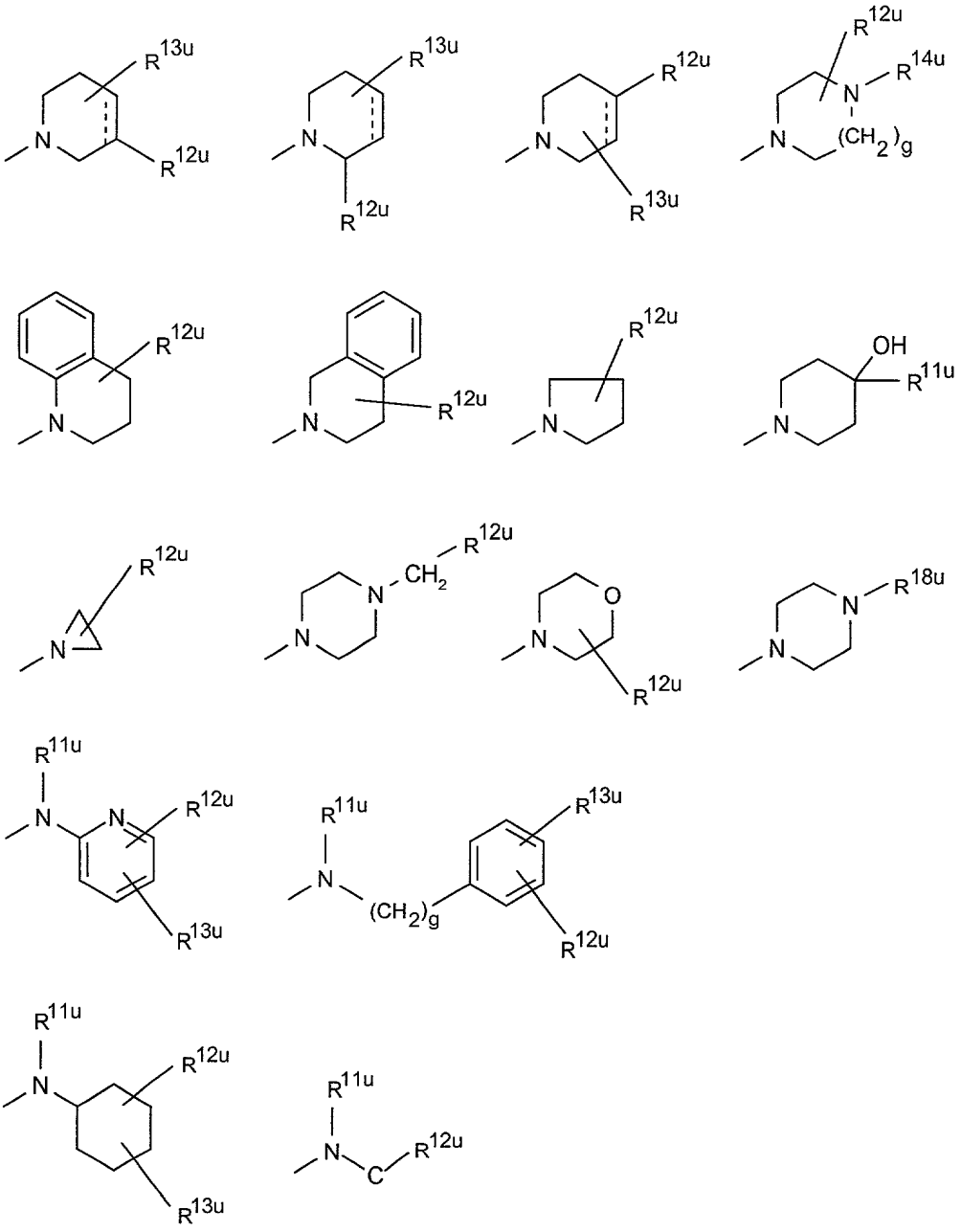
6-(4-(3-(Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-piperazin-1-yl)-pyridine-2-carboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

16. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,
R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and
Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -CH_2OCH_2-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -$CH(R^9)CH_2$-, -$CH_2CH(R^9)$-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl;
and p and q are 0; and
r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and
B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH_2)-, -(C$R^{49}R^{40}$)-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C_{3-7}-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C_{1-6}-unbranched alkyl, C_{3-6}-branched alkyl or C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and
U is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

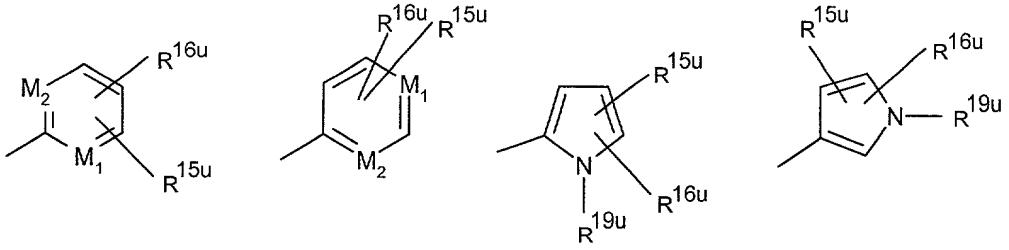
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from



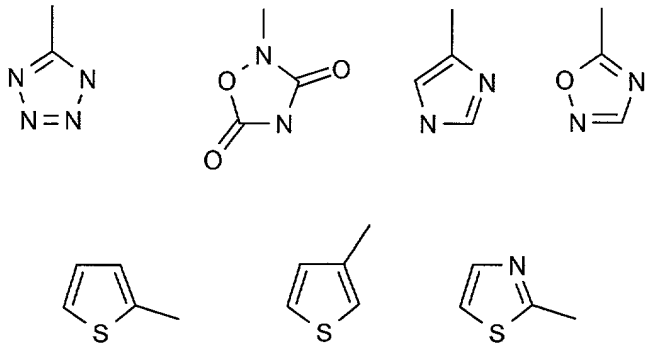
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

17. (Amended) The method according to claim 16 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(2R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2Z)-butenyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propionyl)-(3R)-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2E)-butenyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-methyl-3-oxopropyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-butynyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxy-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-pentyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Trifluoromethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-1-piperazinyl)-nicotinic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-cyclopropylmethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-cyclopentylmethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-3-oxopropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(4-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-butyn-1-yl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid

(R)-1-((2R)-Methyl-3-(3-methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)1-methylpropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-methyl-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)methyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methyl-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidinylacetic acid;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methylpropyl)-4-piperazinyl)-nicotinic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-pentyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-(4-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxypropyl)piperazin-1-yl)nicotinic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-methyl-3-oxo-propyl)-3-

piperidinearboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propionyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propionyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylcarbonyl)-1-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-benzyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-3-oxo-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(3-Chloro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-(2R)-methylpropyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxy-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-hydroxypropyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-2-propoxypropyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(N-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-N-methylamino)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

18. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or methylthio, $-NR^7R^8$ or $-SO_2NR^7R^8$ wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

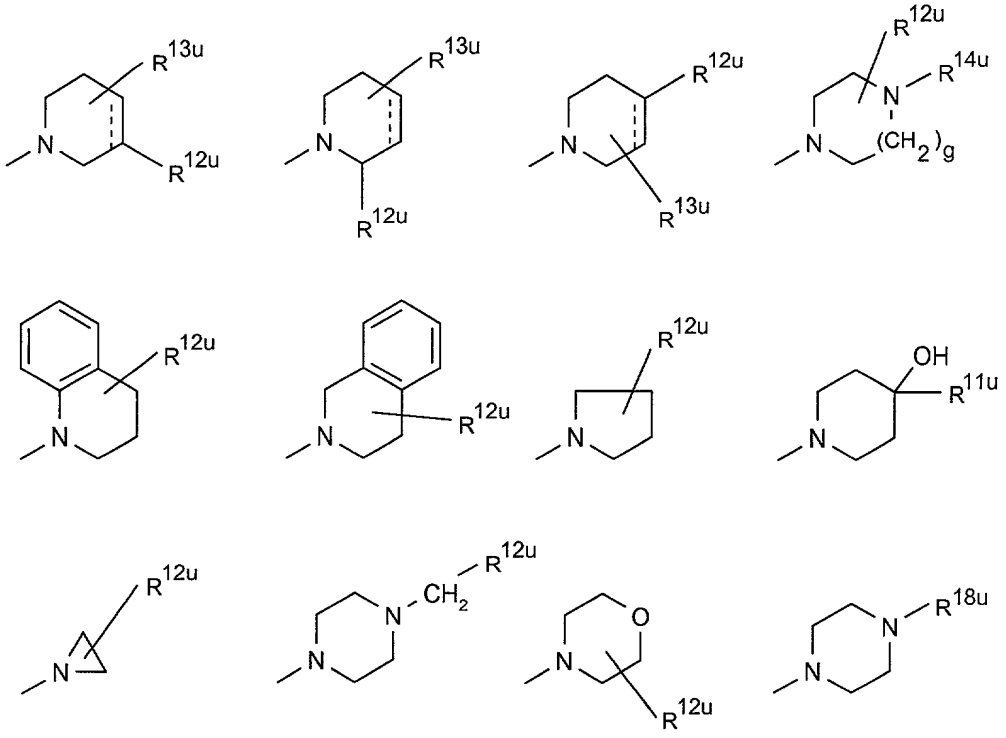
Y is $>\underline{CH}-O-$ or $>\underline{CH}-S(O)_y$ wherein y is 0, 1 or 2, or $-N(R^8)-$ wherein R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

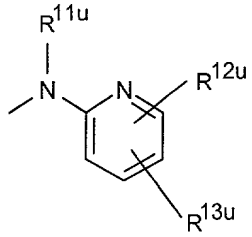
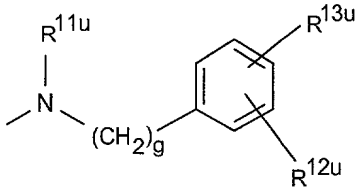
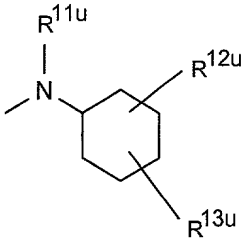
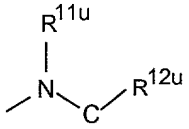
X is completion of an optional bond, ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^7R^8)-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-$, $-N(R^8)-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^8)-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-CH_2OCH_2-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^8)-$, $-N(R^8)(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^9)CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^9)-$, $-(C=O)-$, $-N(R^8)-$ or $-(S=O)-$ wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q independently are 0 or 1; and

r is 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

Z is selected from



wherein g is 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{11u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{12u} is $-(CH_2)_hOH$ or $-(CH_2)_jCOR^{17u}$ wherein h is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and j is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{17u} is -OH, $-NHR^{20u}$ or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{20u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

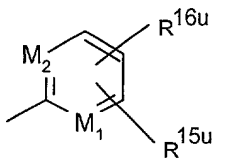
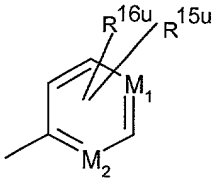
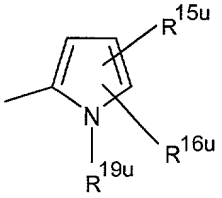
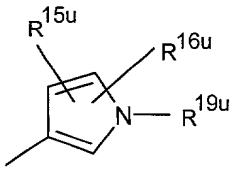
R^{13u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14u} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

C is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond; and

R^{18u} is selected from

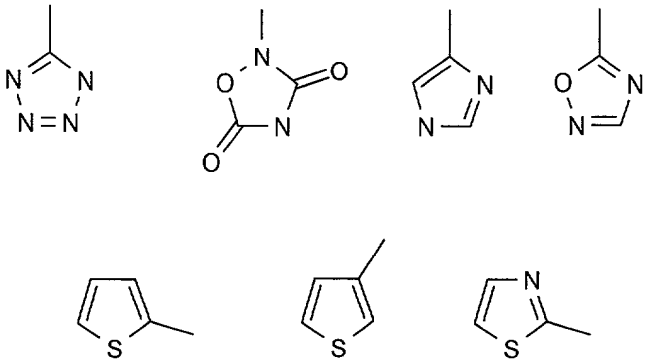
wherein M_1 and M_2 independently are C or N; and

R^{19u} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, phenyl or benzyl; and

R^{15u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano; and

R^{16u} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, nitro, cyano, $-(CH_2)_kCOR^{17u}$, $-(CH_2)_kOH$ or $-(CH_2)_kSO_2R^{17u}$ wherein k is 0, 1 or 2; or

R^{16u} is selected from



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

19. (Amended) The method according to claim 18 wherein, the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

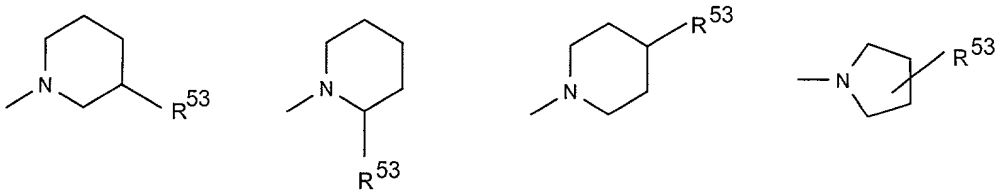
(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

20. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,
R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and
Y is >$\underline{N}$-CH_2- , >$\underline{C}$H-CH_2- or >$\underline{C}$=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N(CH_3)SO_2-, -SO_2N(CH_3)-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and
p and q are 0; and
r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is selected from



wherein R^{53} is $-(CH_2)_{pp}COOH$ wherein pp is 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and
a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

21. (Amended) The method according to claim 20 wherein, the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)ethyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Xanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)-butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-2-yl)-propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(1-Bromo-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Fluoro-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Trifluoromethyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Hydroxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Methoxy-10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(2-Fluoro-6,11-dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)-propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-2-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)-propionic acid;

4-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)-butyric acid;

3-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10H-Anthracen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)pyrrolidin-3-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(10H-Anthracen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

3-(1-(3-(Dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)propionic acid;

5-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-yl)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(6,11-Dihydro-dibenz[b,e]thiepin-11-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(Thioxanthen-9-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid;

5-(1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)piperidin-4-yl)pentanoic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

22. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia, R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

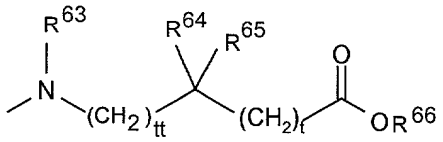
Y is >N-CH_2- , >CH-CH_2- , >C=CH- or >CH-O- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -$(CH_2)N(R^8)$-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -$N(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -$CH_2CH(R^9)$-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 1, 2 or 3; and

Z is



wherein tt and t independently are 0, 1 or 2; and

R^{63} is H, C_{1-6}-alkyl or optionally substituted benzyl;

R^{64} and R^{65} independently are H, C_{1-8}-alkyl, C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl, phenyl, thienyl, benzyl, or R^{64} and R^{65} together with the C-atom they are attached to form a 3 - 8 membered carbocyclic ring; and

R^{66} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

23. (Amended) The method according to claim 22 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

24. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia, R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl

or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

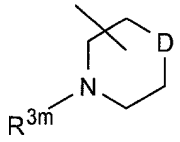
Y is >$\underline{N}$-CH_2- , >$\underline{C}$H-CH_2- or >$\underline{C}$=CH- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

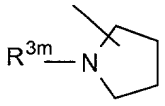
X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, -CH_2CH_2-, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH_2-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, -$CH_2CH_2CH_2$-, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, -OCH_2O-, -S-CH_2-, -CH_2-S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N$(CH_3)SO_2$-, -$SO_2N(CH_3)$-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, -CH_2CH(R^9)-, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

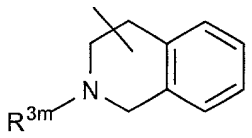
p and q are 0; and

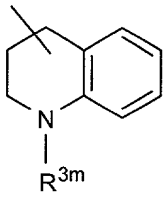
r is 0, 1 or 2; and

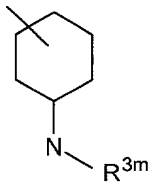
Z is selected from











wherein D is -CH_2-, -O-, -S- or -N(R^7)- wherein R^7 is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{3m} is -$(CH_2)_{mm}$OH or -$(CH_2)_{mp}$COR^4 wherein mm and mp are 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^4 is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

25. (Amended) The method according to claim 24 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

3-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-pyrrolidin-1-yl)-propionic acid;

(2-(2-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-morpholin-4-yl)-acetic acid;

(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenz[(b,f]azepin-5-ylmethyl)-1-piperidyl)acetic acid,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

26. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ia,

R^1, R^{1a}, R^2 and R^{2a} independently are hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, methylthio, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

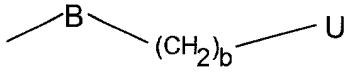
Y is >N-, >CH-, >N-(C=O)- or >C=C(R^8)-, wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system and R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

X is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, -C(R^7R^8)-, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-$(C=O)-, -(C=O)-CH_2-, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, -CH=CH-, -N(R^8)-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-N(R^8)-, -O-CH_2-, -CH_2-O-, $-OCH_2O-$, $-CH_2OCH_2-$, -S-CH_2-, $-CH_2-$S-, -(CH_2)N(R^8)-, -N(R^8)(CH_2)-, -N(CH_3)SO_2-, -SO_2N(CH_3)-, -CH(R^9)CH_2-, $-CH_2CH(R^9)-$, -(C=O)-, -N(R^8)- or -(S=O)- wherein R^7 and R^8 independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and wherein R^9 is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

p and q are 0; and

r is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

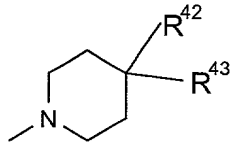
Z is



wherein b is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

B is -CH=CR^{49}-, -CR^{49}=CH-, -C≡C-, -(C=O)-, -(C=CH_2)-, -($CR^{49}R^{40}$)-, -CH(OR^{41})-, -CH(NHR^{41})-, phenylene, C_{3-7}-cycloalkylene or the completion of a bond, wherein R^{49} and R^{40} independently are hydrogen, C_{1-6}-unbranched alkyl, C_{3-6}-branched alkyl or C_{3-7}-cycloalkyl and wherein R^{41} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

U is



wherein R^{42} is hydrogen, -(CH_2)$_c$OH or -(CH_2)$_d$COR^{47} wherein c is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and d is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{47} is -OH, -NHR^{44} or C_{1-6}-alkoxy wherein R^{44} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{43} is cyano, $-NR^{45}R^{46}$, $-NR^{45}$-V or $-(CHR^{48})_e$-V wherein R^{45} and R^{46} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl and wherein e is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and wherein R^{48} is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy, $-NR^{45}R^{46}$ or -COOH, and wherein V is C_{3-8}-cycloalkyl, aryl or heteroaryl, which rings may optionally be substituted with one or more halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, methylthio, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

27. (Amended) The method according to claim 26 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-phenyl-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(4-Chlorophenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

4-(4-Methylphenyl)-1-(3-(10,11-dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-anilino-4-piperidinecarboxamide;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidyl)-2-phenylacetonitrile;

2-(1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinyl)-2-phenylacetic acid;

1-(3-(10,11-Dihydro-5H-dibenzo[a,d]cyclohepten-5-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-cyano-4 piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

28. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ib,

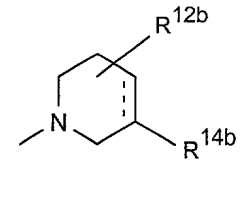
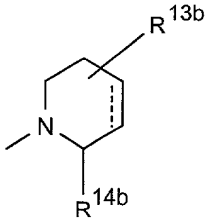
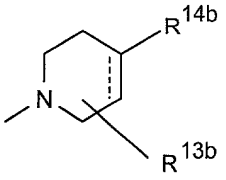
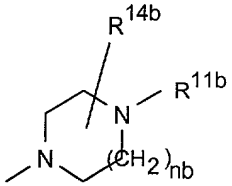
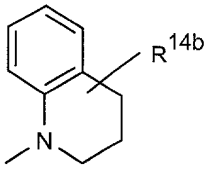
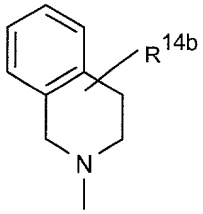
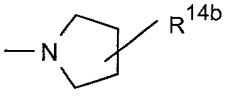
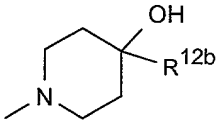
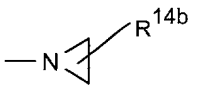
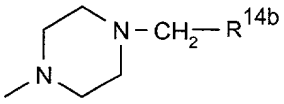
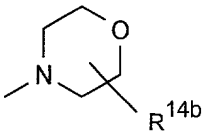
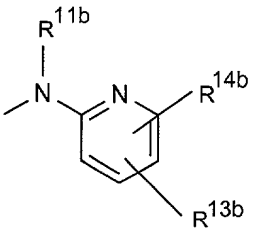
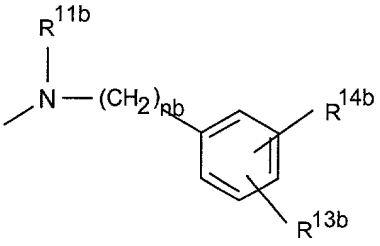
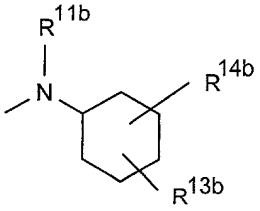
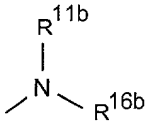
R^{1b} and R^{2b} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{3b} is hydrogen or C_{1-3}-alkyl; and

A_b is C_{1-3}-alkylene; and

Y_b is >$\underline{C}$H-CH_2-, >$\underline{C}$=CH-, >$\underline{C}$H-O-, >$\underline{C}$=N-, >$\underline{N}$-CH_2- wherein only the underscored atom participates in the ring system; and

Z_b is selected from

wherein nb is 1 or 2; and

R^{11b} is hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl; and

R^{12b} is hydrogen, C_{1-6}-alkyl, C_{1-6}-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted with halogen, trifluoro-methyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{13b} is hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{14b} is $-(CH_2)_{mb}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{tb}COR^{15b}$ wherein mb is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and tb is 0 or 1 and wherein R^{15b} is -OH, NH_2, -NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

R^{16b} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or $-B_b-COR^{15b}$, wherein B_b is C_{1-6}-alkylene, C_{2-6}-alkenylene or C_{2-6}-alkynylene and R^{15b} is the same as above; and

... is optionally a single bond or a double bond;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

29. (Amended) The method according to claim 28 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

1-(3-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g[1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)-1-propyl)-3-pyrrolidineacetic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,10-Dichloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(3-(2-Chloro-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3,6]dioxazocin-12-yl)-1-propyl)-4-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

2-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(2-dimethylamino)ethoxy-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propyl-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2,10-Dichloro-12-(3-dimethylamino-1-methyl)ethoxy-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(2-dimethylaminopropylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-dimethylamino-1-methylpropylidene)-12H-dibenzo-[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Fluoro-12-(3-dimethylamino)propylidene-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Methyl-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

2-Chloro-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

3-Chloro-12-(3-(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)propylidene)-12H-dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocine;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid ethyl ester;

1-(3-(12H-Dibenzo[d,g][1,3]dioxocin-12-ylidene)propyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

30. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Ic,

R^{1c} and R^{2c} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-alkoxy; and

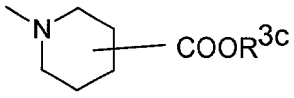
X_c is ortho-phenylene, -O-, -S-, $-C(R^{6c}R^{7c})-$, $-CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH=CH-$, $-CH_2-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH_2CH_2-$, $-CH=CH-$, $-N(R^{8c})-(C=O)-$, $-(C=O)-N(R^{8c})-$, $-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-O-$, $-OCH_2O-$, $-S-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-$, $-(CH_2)N(R^{8c})-$, $-N(R^{8c})(CH_2)-$, $-N(CH_3)SO_2-$, $-SO_2N(CH_3)-$, $-CH(R^{10c})CH_2-$, $-CH_2CH(R^{10c})-$, -(C=O)-, $-N(R^{9c})-$ or -(S=O)- wherein R^{6c}, R^{7c}, R^{8c} and R^{9c} independently are hydrogen or C_{1-6}-alkyl, and wherein R^{10c} is C_{1-6}-alkyl or phenyl; and

Y_c is C or N; and

.... is optionally a single bond or a double bond, and .... is a single bond when Y_c is N; and

mc is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6; and

Z_c is $-COOR^{3c}$ or



wherein R^{3c} is H or C_{1-6}-alkyl;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

31. (Amended) The method according to claim 30 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-(3R)-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-4-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(2-Methyl-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-(8-Methylthio-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)-1-ethyl)-3-piperidine-carboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(10,11-Dihydrodibenzo[b,f]oxepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-ylsulfanyl)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(11H-Dibenz[b,f][1,4]oxathiepin-11-ylmethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2-Chloro-7-fluoro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid;

(R)-1-(2-(2,4-Dichloro-10,11-dihydrodibenzo[b,f]thiepin-10-yloxy)ethyl)-3-piperidinecarboxylic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

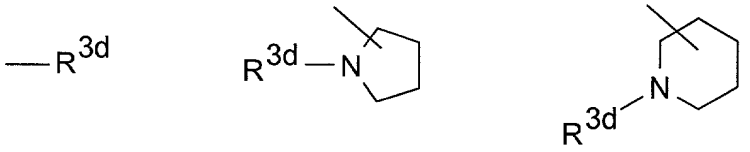
32. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, in formula Id, R^{1d} and R^{2d} independently are hydrogen, halogen, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C_{1-6}-alkyl or C_{1-6}-

alkoxy; and

X_d is -O-, -S- or -S(=O)-; and

rd is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 ; and

Z_d is selected from



wherein R^{3d} is $-(CH_2)_{md}OH$ or $-(CH_2)_{pd}COR^{4d}$ wherein md and pd independently are 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and R^{4d} is OH, NH_2, NHOH or C_{1-6}-alkoxy;

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

33. (Amended) The method according to claim 32 wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

4-(1,3,4,14b-Tetrahydro-2H-dibenzo[b,f]pyrazino[1,2-d][1,4]oxazepin-2-yl)-butanoic acid;

4-(1,3,4,14b-Tetrahydro-2H-dibenzo[b,f]pyrazino[1,2-d][1,4]thiazepin-2-yl)-butanoic acid,

and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the foregoing.

34. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is in a form suitable for oral administration.